

# 2024 Annual Report



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Seneca County, NY**

**Seneca County Health Department**

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@senecacountyHD



@SenecaCountyDOH



@SenecaCountyDOH



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# ***SCHD Staff - 2024***

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## **Message from the Director:**

I am pleased to share the 2024 Seneca County Health Department's Annual Report with our community. As in previous years, the Annual Report demonstrates the commitment of staff to ensure the people of Seneca County benefit from comprehensive, science and evidence-based public health practice, policy, services and programs.

In this report, we share some of the essential work that we are doing to help support the health and wellness for Seneca County residents and for those that visit our community. As we move through challenging and complex situations across the country, the Seneca County Health Department will remain constant and vigilant in our responsibility to protect the public's health and lead efforts to continue to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the community.

Collaboration with our community residents, stakeholders, and partners continues to be a crucial piece in helping the Health Department be successful and strengthen our ability to provide effective and efficient public health services and programs. I also want to express my gratitude and admiration to the Seneca County Health Department staff for their ongoing dedication to public health and the residents of Seneca County.

*Scott King, MPH*  
Public Health Director

## **Mission, Vision, and Core Values**

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### **Mission**

To improve health by providing quality preventive programs and services that respect the cultural diversity of our residents. Through collaboration with our community partners, we promote healthy lifestyles to prevent disease and support safe, healthy environments where we live, work and play.

### **Vision**

To achieve healthy communities and safe environments for all

### **Values**

Integrity  
Commitment to Excellence  
Ongoing Education  
Collaboration  
Respect

## **2024 Staff Directory**

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### **Administration**

Scott King	Director of Public Health
Kim Abate	Deputy Director
Elizabeth Borst	Director of Preventative Health Services
Mary Jump	Director of Environmental Services

### **Medical Director**

Timothy Ryan, MD	Medical Director
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### **Support Staff**

Jennifer Bates	Staff Resources Assistant
Tammy Reynolds	Staff Resources Assistant

### **Environmental Health Staff**

Kevin Serrett	Sanitarian
Jillian Kosinski	Sanitarian
Roger Osborn	Sanitarian
Katelynn Jones	Sanitarian
Mary Jensen	Sanitarian

### **Public Health Staff**

Mary Reese	Registered Professional Nurse
Kristina Knight	Registered Professional Nurse
Ashley Lott	Public Health Nurse
Kari Jensen	Public Health Nurse
Andrew VanCuren	Senior Public Health Educator
Andrew Rude	Public Health Educator
Kendra Brigham	Service Coordinator
Betty Sherman	Service Coordinator
Christina Redding	Service Coordinator
Crystal Tompkins	Service Coordinator
Chersti Kuhlmann	Children with Special Needs Coordinator
Sara Flack	Project Director, Creating Healthy Schools and Communities grant

### **Public Health Corps Fellows**

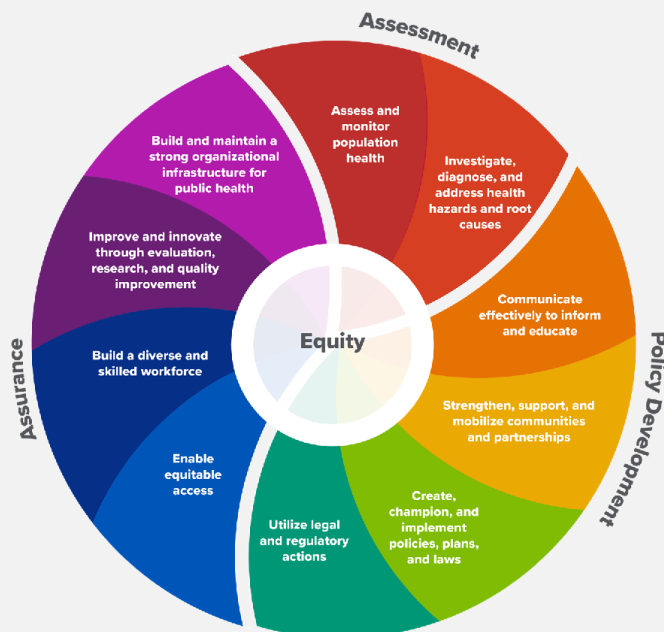
Isaac Beru	Public Health Corps Fellow II
Nick Blowers	Public Health Corps Fellow I



# THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

*To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities*

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve equity, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and overall community conditions that enable optimal health for all and seek to remove systemic and structural barriers that have resulted in health inequities. Such barriers include poverty, racism, gender discrimination, ableism, and other forms of oppression. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve optimal health and well-being.



## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #1

Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #2

Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #3

Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #4

Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #5

Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #6

Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #7

Assure an effective system that enables equitable access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #8

Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #9

Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement

## ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #10

Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health

Created 2020



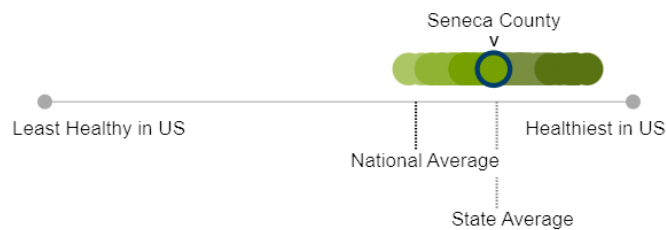
Essential Service 1: Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets.

**Introduction:** *Essential Service 1 activities include assessing the health status of the community through formal and informal needs assessments and data analysis. Seneca County Public Health collaborates with a diverse group of community partners to address community health problems.*

According to the 2024 County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, Seneca County is ranked 36 out of 62 counties in New York (lower is better). Our rank is based on Health Factors data, which are those things that can be improved to live longer and healthier lives, and on Health Outcomes data, which tells us how long people live on average within a community, and the physical and mental health people experience in a community while they are alive. Below are charts that illustrate Seneca County's health rankings compared to the State and National averages. To view the full 2024 report, visit: [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)



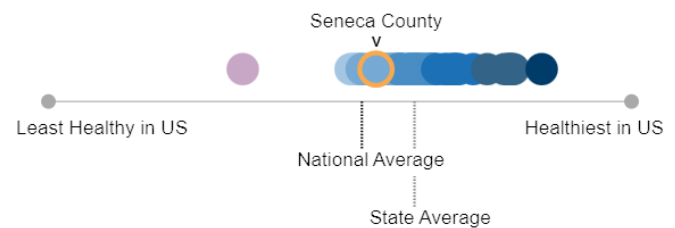
### Seneca County Health Outcomes - 2024



Seneca County is faring about the same as the average county in New York for Health Outcomes, and better than the average county in the nation.



### Seneca County Health Factors - 2024



Seneca County is faring slightly worse than the average county in New York for Health Factors, and about the same as the average county in the nation.

## Community Health Assessment & Community Health Improvement Plan

The Seneca County Health Department completes a Community Health Assessment (CHA) in conjunction with Finger Lakes Health, which owns and operates Geneva General Hospital. Local health departments are directed by the New York State Health Department to work collaboratively with a local hospital to develop Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs). Seneca County is one of the few counties in the state that does not have a hospital located in the county; therefore, the Seneca County Health Department collaborates with representatives from Finger Lakes Health at Geneva General Hospital. Our most recent CHA process began in 2021 and resulted in the 2022-2024 CHIP. Agencies involved in the creation and rollout of the interventions outlined in the 2022-2024 CHIP include: Seneca County Health Department, Finger Lakes Health (Geneva General Hospital), Pivotal Public Health Partnership,

Seneca Towns Engaging People for Solutions (STEPS), Cornell Cooperative Extension, Seneca County Community Counseling (Mental Health), Seneca County Youth Bureau, the Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition, United Way of Seneca County, Seneca County Office for the Aging, Tobacco Action Coalition of the Finger Lakes, Council on Alcoholism and Addictions of the Finger Lakes, Finger Lakes Community Health, Children and Family Resources, Cancer Services Program of Finger Lakes Region, and Common Ground Health.

**The two priorities of the 2022-2024 Seneca County CHIP are:**

1. **Preventing Chronic Disease**, with a focus area on healthy eating and food security.
2. **Promoting Well-Being and Preventing Mental & Substance Use Disorders**, with a focus area on preventing mental and substance use disorders

The complete 2022 CHA and the 2022-2024 CHIP can be viewed on the Seneca County Health Department website at <https://senecacountyhealthdepartment.com/>.

Essential Service 2: Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 2 includes provision of epidemiological identification of emerging health threats and active investigation of infectious diseases.*

### **Communicable Disease, Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV Testing**

Communicable disease control is one of the core functions of Public Health. The focus of this program is the prevention of disease through surveillance, case management, screening, and health education. There are many steps in achieving effective communicable disease control. These steps include:

- ✓ Early identification of the disease.
- ✓ Thorough investigation of the disease source(s) and methods of transmission.
- ✓ Prompt notification to the providers in the community.
- ✓ Early and effective communication to the community members regarding risk of transmission and, if necessary, treatment options.

Health Department staff would not be able to effectively manage a successful disease control program without assistance from our community partners. Through active and passive surveillance, much critical information is obtained. This information helps the department become aware of trends in disease prevalence and to alert the providers and residents as necessary.

The Health Department conducts weekly active surveillance with the physicians, schools, daycare centers, nursing homes, and emergency departments/urgent care centers in our county. The information received alerts the staff to any trends in illnesses, such as an increased report of gastrointestinal illness in the schools. This allows agency staff to develop educational materials to be sent home with students, or to direct public health media releases on disease prevention.

Passive surveillance is completed on an on-going basis. Health Department staff are available 24 hours a day/seven days a week to receive reportable illness reports. Reportable illnesses include hepatitis A, tuberculosis, salmonella, giardia, and sexually transmitted infections such as gonorrhea, syphilis, mpox, and chlamydia.

The Health Department is also responsible for ensuring the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections. Seneca County Health Department has a contract with Finger Lakes Urgent Care and Finger Lakes Community Health to provide testing, treatment and follow-up visits when needed.

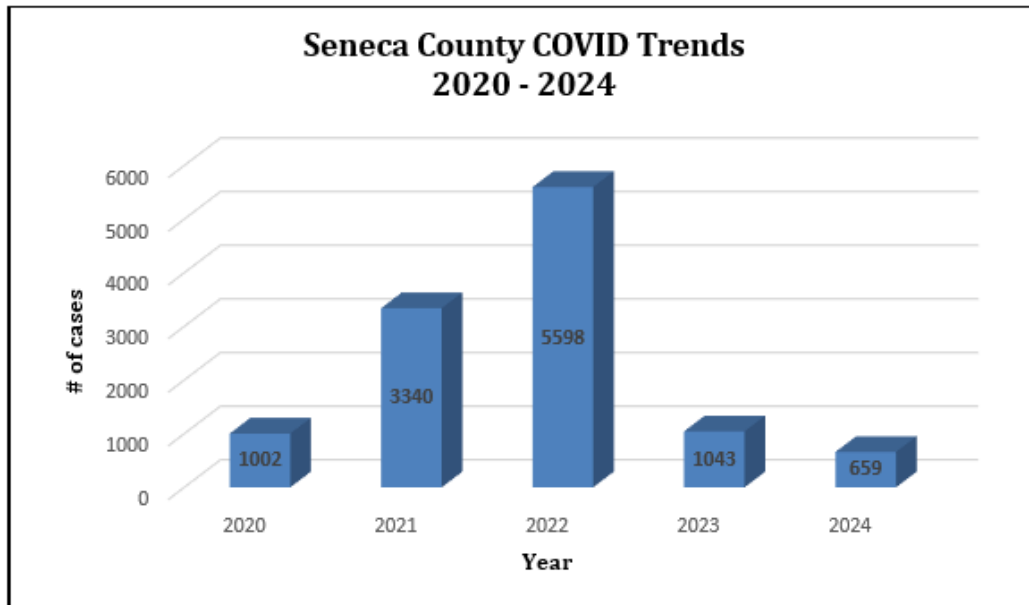
The Health Department does not offer on-site HIV testing. For any individual seeking testing, the Health Department provides education and referral to agencies that provide confidential counseling and testing.

Communicable disease staff monitored and investigated mostly routine diseases during 2024. The following chart shows the diseases investigated. Of note, there were 13 lab-confirmed cases of pertussis, 10 of which were unvaccinated Amish and 1 was an unvaccinated Mennonite. The remaining 2 cases were up to date with pertussis containing vaccinations. The cases ranged in age

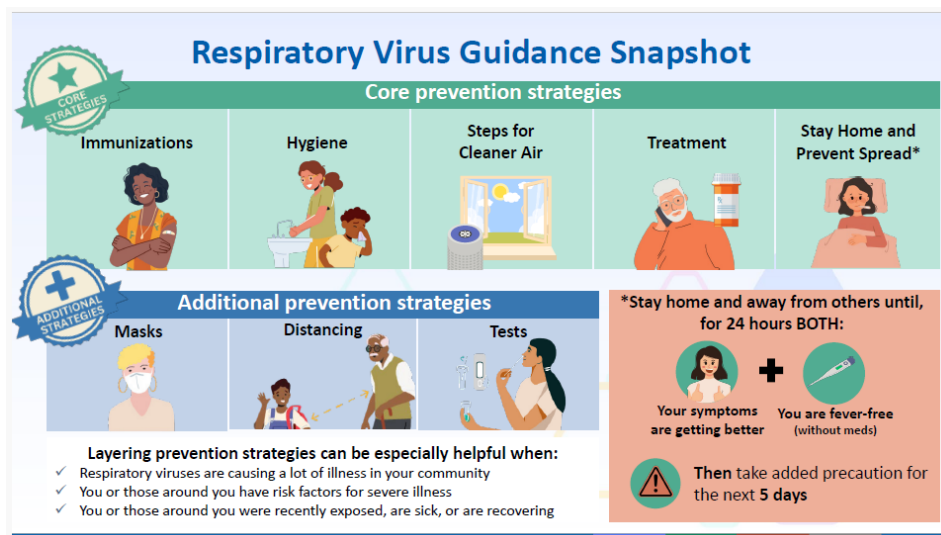
from 6 months to 66 years old, with 9 out of the 13 cases being under 4 years old. Four of the children were hospitalized and 4 were coinfectd with other respiratory illnesses (RSV, haemophilus influenzae, mycoplasma pneumoniae). We held an immunization clinic in Ovid to provide pertussis vaccination to help prevent continued spread of illness. Despite the promotion and advertisement effort, just one child was vaccinated at this clinic.

Seneca County 2024 Diseases Investigated	
Disease	# of cases
Anaplasmosis	1
Campylobacteriosis	23
Candida auris	2
Chlamydia	56
COVID-19	659
Cryptosporidiosis	2
Giardiasis	5
Gonorrhea	14
Group A Strep (iGAS)	4
Group B Strep	3
Haemophilus	6
Hepatitis A Acute	0
Hepatitis B Chronic	6
Hepatitis C Acute	1
Hepatitis C Chronic	110
Influenza A (2023-2024)	316
Influenza B (2023-2024)	86
Legionellosis	5
Lyme	62
Pertussis	13
RSV	148
Salmonellosis	8
Shiga Toxin E. coli (STEC)	4
Shigellosis	2
Strep Pneumoniae	4
Syphilis (new cases)	10
Yersiniosis	1

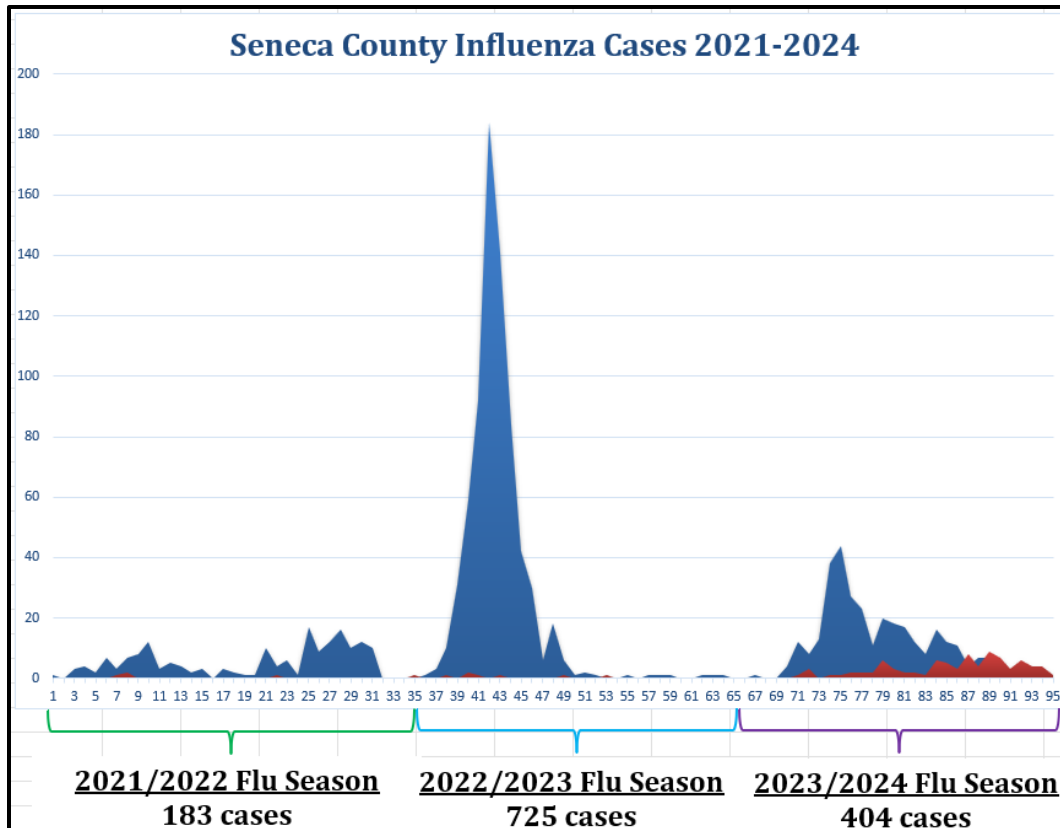
The next graph shows the trends for total number of Seneca County COVID-19 cases since the start of the pandemic in 2020. As shown in the graph, the number of cases reported in 2024 dropped again, for the second consecutive year. Trends show that most individuals sick with COVID symptoms either do not seek testing or choose to test at home, leading to fewer cases reported than are circulating in the community.



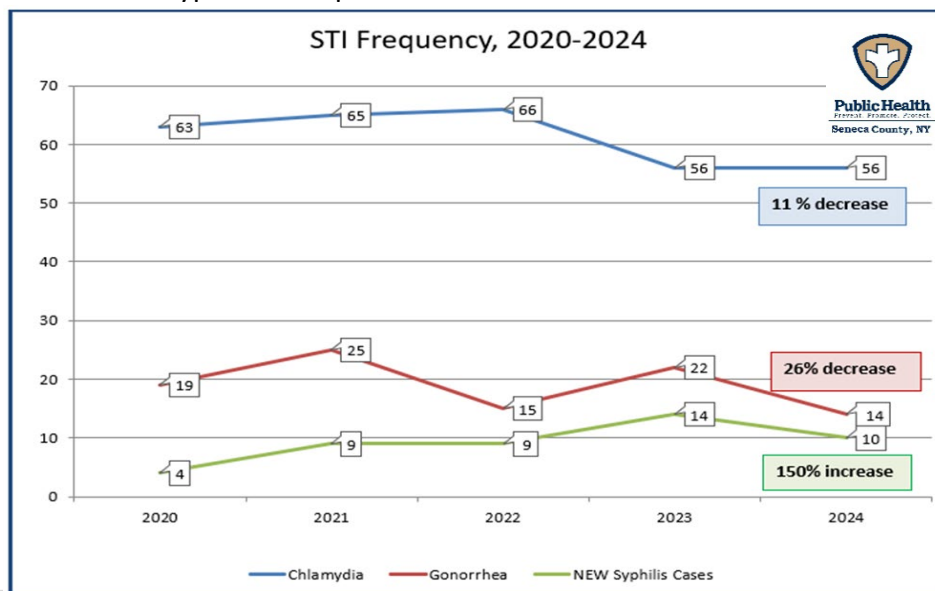
We have been promoting the CDC's updated recommendations for how people can protect themselves and their communities from respiratory viruses. The new guidance brings a unified, practical approach to addressing risks from a range of common respiratory viral illnesses, rather than specific guidance for each illness. The guidance provides recommendations on core prevention strategies, along with additional prevention steps to further lower the risk of illness. Below is a graphic summarizing the guidance.

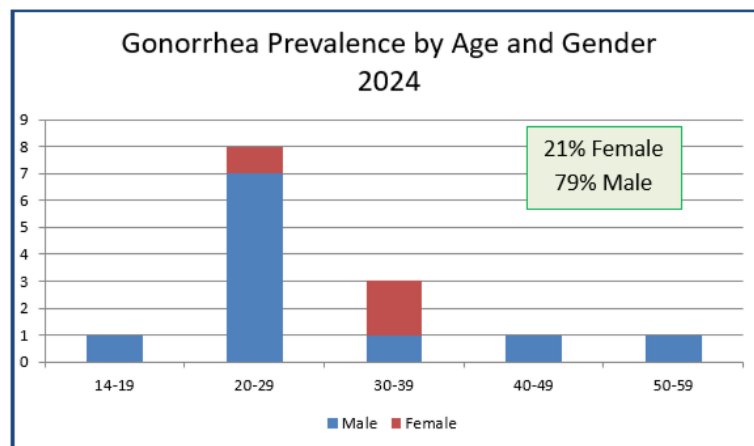
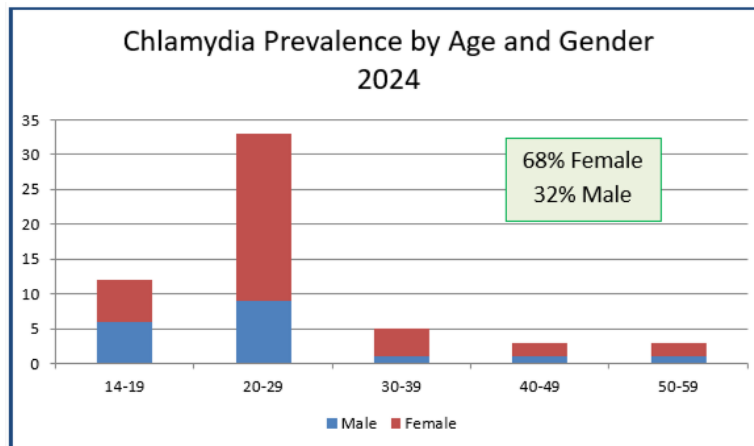


During the 2023-2024 influenza season, there were more cases of influenza B, as shown by the red area of the graph below. In addition, cases were more evenly distributed throughout the season as compared to the previous season. The graph below shows three consecutive seasons, illustrating the differences in number of cases, intensity and duration.

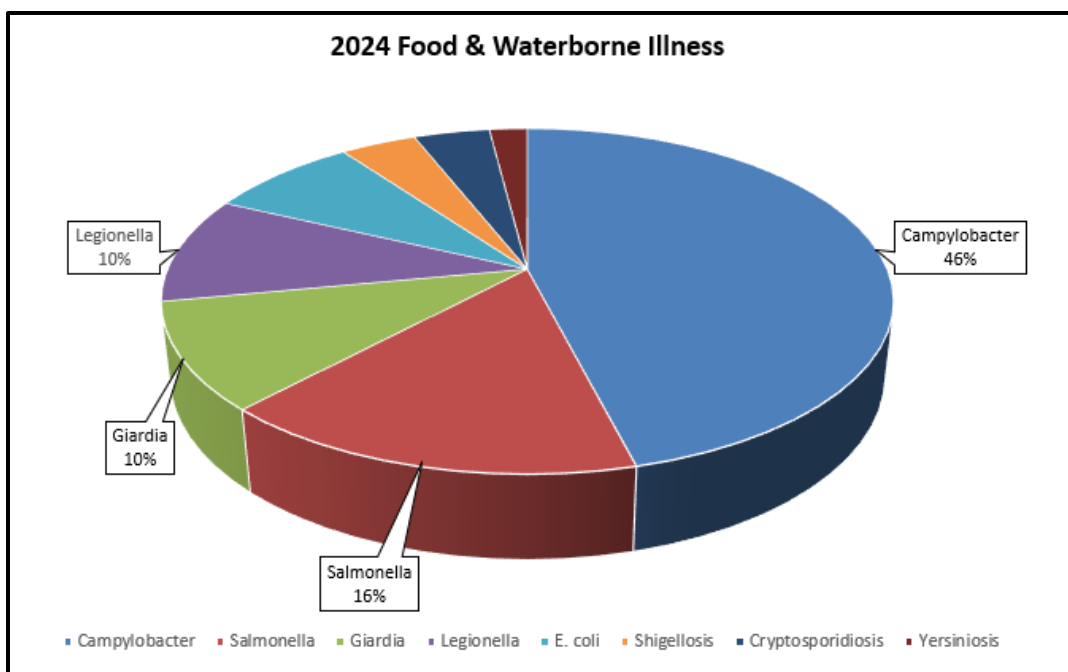


The following graphs show the trends in Seneca County for sexually transmitted infections. Both chlamydia and gonorrhea rates have declined over the last 5 years. However, syphilis cases are on the rise, and new cases of syphilis are up 150% since 2020.





Lastly, the graph below shows the cases of lab-confirmed food and waterborne illnesses. The most common causes of these illnesses in 2024 were campylobacter, salmonella, giardia and legionella.




## Immunization Program

In 2024, we welcomed a new Immunization Program Coordinator to the staff.

The Health Department offers immunizations for vaccine preventable diseases to children who do not have health insurance coverage, who are underinsured, enrolled in Medicaid, or Child Health Plus recipients. Immunization clinics are by appointment and are held twice monthly. Vaccine is obtained through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program from the NYSDOH and is offered to children under the age of 19 years. There were 22 clinics held in 2024.

**Free vaccines**  
for eligible children


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**Immunization Clinic:** 


**The 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month**

While we encourage children to see their primary care physician, we can provide vaccinations for the following: No Insurance, Medicaid, Child Health Plus, Native American

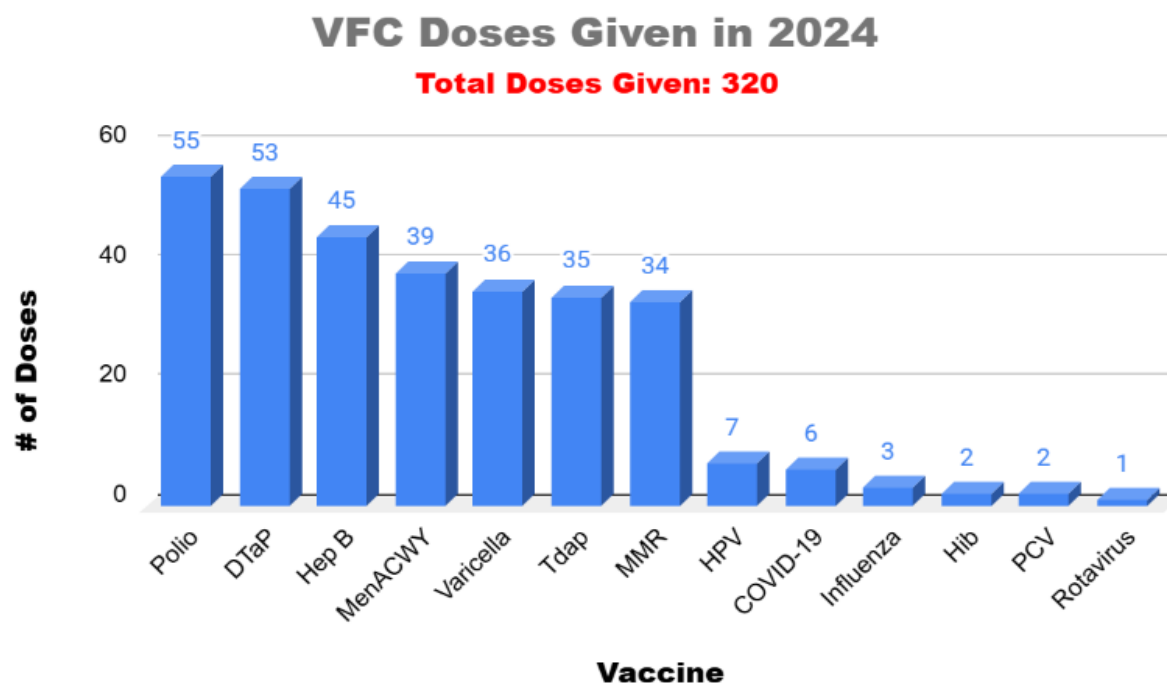
**Appointments necessary: Call 315-539-1920**



**Seneca County**  
Health Department



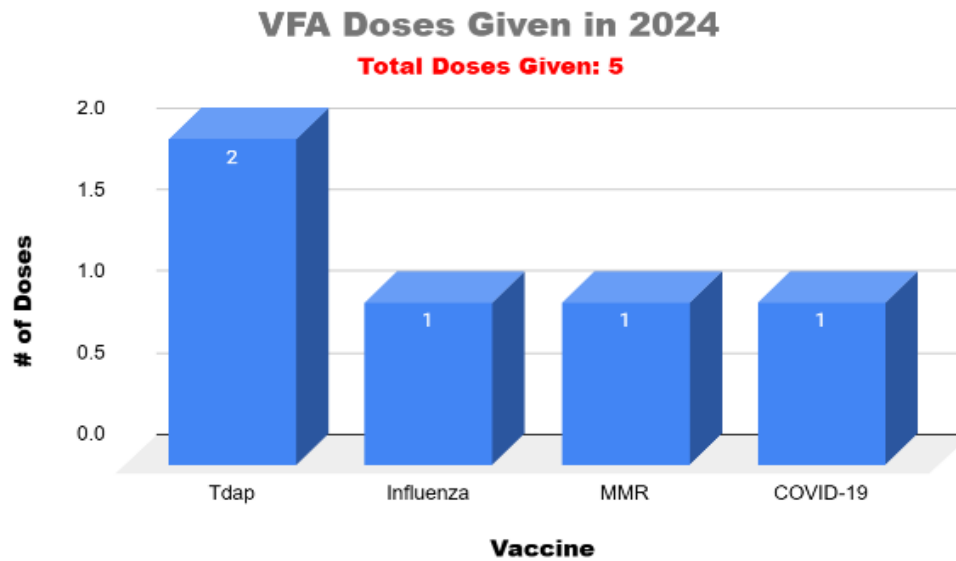
In 2024, the VFC program vaccinated 136 children. The following graph shows the total number of each vaccine given in 2024 at VFC Immunization Clinics:



The Health Department also offered vaccines by appointment to qualifying adults through the Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Program. Only uninsured and underinsured adults ages 19 and up are eligible. A limited menu of VFA vaccine is available at the Health Department; influenza, Tdap, polio, mpox and COVID-19. Due to eligibility requirements, the percentage of county residents that qualified for or were seeking VFA vaccines was small, guiding us to choose vaccine based on anticipated demand and currently circulating illnesses.

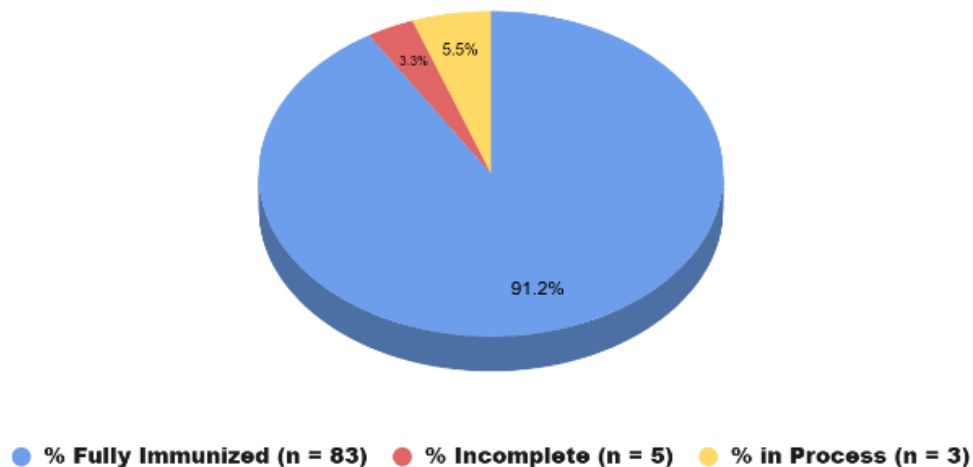


In 2024, the VFA program vaccinated a total of 4 adults. The following graph summarizes the immunizations given under the VFA program:



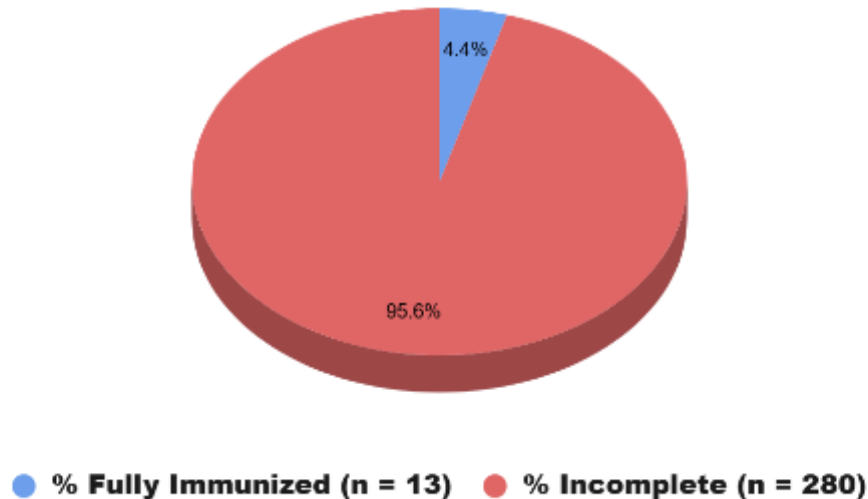
This program also includes Immunization Quality Improvement Program (IQIP) visits, Adult Provider Education visits, and School Training and Technical Assistance visits. The Amish/Mennonite School Immunization Surveys were completed and submitted to NYSDOH as well. The following graphs summarize the immunization status of our Amish and Mennonite schools in the 2024/2025 school year:

**MENNONITE SCHOOLS 2024/2025**  
**2 Schools, 91 Students**



## AMISH SCHOOLS 2024/2025

13 Schools, 293 Students



Of the 293 students in the Amish Schools, it was noted that 90.8% (266) had stated a moral/ethical objection to immunizations on their records.

### Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program

The SCHD TB Control Program provides evaluation, testing, diagnosis, and treatment options for latent (infection) and active (disease) TB cases in our county. This program is designed to decrease the threat posed by the potential of active TB in our community.

We get our referrals from medical practices, hospitals, labs, other counties, and employee health for follow up investigations of positive Tuberculin Skin Tests (TSTs), QuantiFERON's, and/or Acid-Fast Bacilli (AFB) strains/cultures.

In 2024, 18 TSTs were administered at the health department. We received 15 referrals for follow-up investigations; two of which ruled in for latent TB. One case started treatment but chose to stop due to personal reasons, and one case successfully completed treatment. No cases of active TB were identified in 2024.

For latent TB infection: the CDC and the National Tuberculosis Controllers Association (NTCA) preferentially recommend short-course, rifamycin-based, 3 or 4 month treatment regimens over 6- or 9-month isoniazid monotherapy. These short course regimens include:

- Three months of once-weekly isoniazid plus rifapentine (3HP)
- Four months of daily rifampin (4R)

- Three months of daily isoniazid plus rifampin (3HR)

The short-course treatment regimens, like 3HP and 4R, are effective, safe, and have higher completion rates than the 6 to 9 months of isoniazid monotherapy (6H/9H). Shorter, rifamycin-based treatment regimens generally have a lower risk of hepatotoxicity than isoniazid monotherapy.

If short-course treatment regimens are not feasible or an available option, 6H and 9H are alternative, effective latent TB infection treatment regimens. Although effective, 6H and 9H have higher toxicity risk and lower treatment completion rates than most short-term treatment regimens.

For active TB disease: there are several treatment regimens recommended in the United States for TB disease. TB treatment can take 4, 6, or 9 months depending on the regimen. TB disease treatment regimens include:

- 4-month Rifapentine-moxifloxacin TB Treatment Regimen
- 6- or 9-month RIPE TB Treatment Regimen

Shorter regimens help patients complete treatment faster. Healthcare providers can choose the appropriate TB treatment regimen based on drug-susceptibility results, coexisting medical conditions (e.g., HIV, diabetes), and potential for drug-drug interactions. The State TB Control Offices and TB Centers of Excellence for Training, Education, and Medical Consultation can provide additional assistance and support in treating people with TB disease.

### **Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**

Lead is a metal toxin that can systemically affect all body systems if it gets ingested or breathed into people's bodies. Exposure to even small amounts of it can cause myriad problems. Lead poisoning is especially dangerous for young children as it can significantly harm their growth, behavior, IQ, ability to learn and future potential. Lead poisoning is more likely to happen to children under the age of six than any other age group due to their frequent hand/mouth activity, curious nature, and proximity to areas that tend to have the most possible contamination.

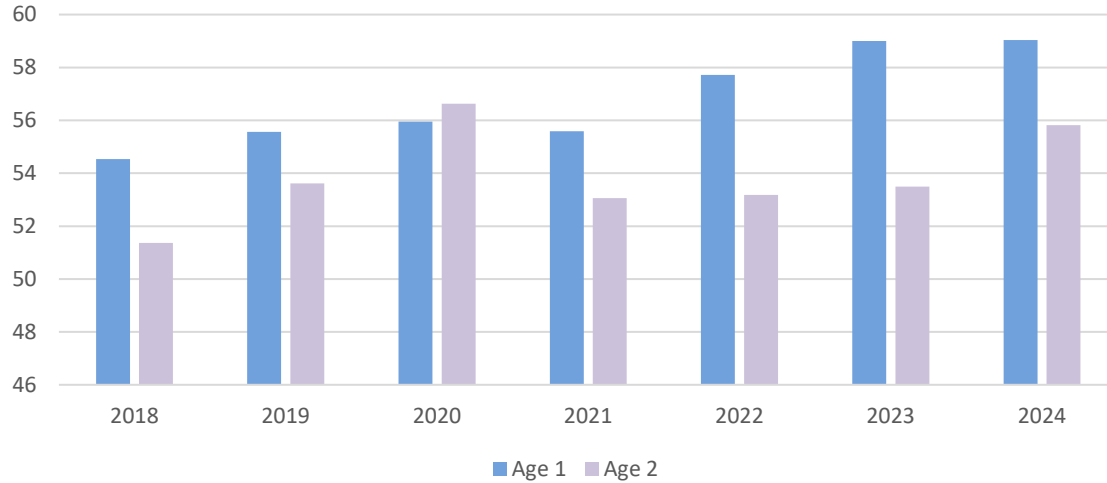
Lead can be found in dust, air, water, soil, and in some products used in and around our homes. Seneca County Health Department works to prevent Lead poisoning through education opportunities in the community, social media outlets, and medical provider outreach.

All children are supposed to be tested for Lead at age 1 and again at age 2 in New York State at their well child visits with their providers. The Lead testing rates for 2024 in Seneca County were 59.04% for 1-year-olds and 55.82 % for 2-year-olds, which is continuing to trend in the right direction after losing ground during the pandemic.

All children with a Lead level of  $\geq 5$  ug/dl receive environmental investigation for identifying Lead hazards in the home, further blood Lead screening, educational intervention, and ongoing case management.



Seneca County Lead Testing Rates- Age 1 & 2



### Seneca County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Staffing and Goals

Our program is staffed with a full-time Public Health Nurse, a Public Health Sanitarian, and the Director of Environmental Services. We work in collaboration with all medical practices that serve Seneca County residents to provide testing and screening for children. Additionally, the Sanitarian conducts inspections of all locations where a lead-poisoned child spends significant time including their home, daycare, and school settings. The goal of the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program is to decrease the incidence of lead poisoning in children residing in Seneca County through effective screening, testing, health education and outreach. Program staff act quickly to intervene in cases that are identified so that continued exposure to the source of lead can be stopped.

Essential Service 3: Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 3 includes social marketing, targeted-media public communication, and providing accessible health information resources to reinforce health promotion messages and programs.*

### **Health Education:**

The Public Health Educators provided education to target groups and the public throughout the year regarding various health topics. Programs and topic areas the public health educators support include all Article 6 mandated program areas as defined by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

- Article 6 Mandated Program Areas
  - Family Health
  - Chronic Disease
  - Environmental Health (Injury Prevention, Blue Green Algae, etc.)
  - Emergency Preparedness and Response
  - Communicable Disease
  - Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA/CHIP)

Education staff serve as a connection between the department and the public. As the forward-facing representatives of the Seneca County Health Department, the educators attend numerous community events to engage Seneca County residents and educate them on emerging public health issues and the programs and services that are available to our community. The Public Health Educators also provide services directly to the Seneca County community including bike helmets, child passenger safety seats, Naloxone (Narcan) training, and dental health kits.



## Outreach and Promotion

- In 2024, our educators were responsible for the regular monitoring and updating of the department's website and social media (Facebook, Twitter/X, and Instagram) content. The educators continue to use the website as a tool to educate about upcoming clinics and emerging public health threats.
- The Bike Helmet Distribution program was in full swing during community events.
  - Educators distributed bicycle helmets during/at:
    - Christmas Promise Bike Build
    - Celebrate Commemorate
    - Old Home Day
    - Strawberry Festival
    - Various Bike Rodeos
- The Child Passenger Safety Seat program saw a large increase in 2024. During the grant fiscal year, our certified technicians provided 25 fittings and distributed 46 child safety seats to the community. In addition to the seat distribution, three educational training courses were conducted at the Seneca Falls ABCD Head Start and in collaboration with the Seneca County Sheriff, two classes were conducted for the Seneca County Department of Human Services staff.



## Community Engagement

Public health education staff enthusiastically participated in multiple community engagement events during 2024, attending events throughout the spring, summer, and fall.

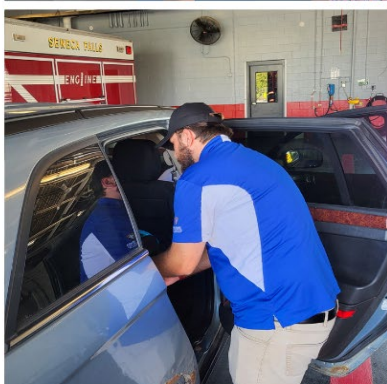
Events included:

- Housing & Services Fair (Seneca Falls)
- ITT Goulds Pumps Employee Health Fair
- Celebrate Commemorate (Waterloo)
- Skoi-Yase Primary School End of Yearbook Fair (Waterloo, Dental Health)
- Olde Home Day (Interlaken)
- Strawberry Fest (Ovid)
- Canal Fest (Seneca Falls)
- Teddy Bear Picnic (Ovid)
- Seneca County Fair (Waterloo)





- National Night Out (Seneca Falls)
- Seneca Falls Historical Society's Annual Craft Fair (Seneca Falls)
- Seneca County Employee Benefits Fair
- Seneca Meadows, Inc. Annual Christmas Promise Bike Build
- Landscape to Lake / Lodi-Ginny Lee Café
- School Open Houses:
  - Romulus Central School District
  - Mynderse Academy
  - Waterloo Middle School
  - Frank Knight Elementary
  - South Seneca Elementary
  - Lafayette Middle School
  - Waterloo High School
  - South Seneca Middle School/High School
  - Skoi-Yase Primary
- Trunk-or-Treat Events:
  - Frank Knight Elementary School
  - Elizabeth Cady Stanton Pumpkin Walk
  - Seneca County Community Counseling Center Trunk-or-Treat



## Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC) Grant

Creating Healthy Schools and Communities is a five-year, state-funded initiative to increase opportunities for physical activity and improved nutrition in 227 priority communities in New York State, with a potential reach of over 4 million New Yorkers. The overall program goal is to reduce racial, ethnic, and community disparities in chronic disease risk factors. This program is funded by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to implement multi-component evidence-based policies, place-based strategies, and promising practices to increase demand for access to healthy, affordable foods and opportunities for daily physical activity for all New Yorkers.

Grant funds are used to improve policies, practices and environmental support that increase access to physical activity and healthier nutrition in schools, worksites, public spaces, daycares, and pre-kindergarten programs that serve Seneca County.

All Seneca County public school districts, as well as the Finger Lakes Christian School, are currently participating in the CHSC grant. School districts develop Wellness Committees, improve District Wellness Policies, create opportunities for physical activity, improve nutrition environments, address Smart Snacks in Schools Standards, and improve their Comprehensive School Physical Activity Programs. In 2024, our county schools continued to focus on evaluating their District Wellness Policies and identifying areas of improvement. Districts have been able to



add over 15 lifelong skills to their physical activity and nutrition programs because of CHSC. Nutrition programs have expanded to include the use of garden beds, grow towers, Smart Snacks guidelines, and support for family consumer science and agriculture curriculum. The blender bike (as shown in the picture to the left) has also been utilized by many districts to provide fun and hands-on activity for students and families during end of year celebrations and special events. The CHSC blender bike can create healthy smoothies with local products, including produce grown by the students or to be set up to create one-of-a-kind spin art!

CHSC coordinators have also completed NYS Nutrition & Physical Activity training to provide up-to-date information and best practice strategies to daycare centers and in-home providers. In 2024, 5 in-home daycare providers completed the Nourishing Healthy Eaters (NHE) and Physical Activity Learning Sessions (PALS) training. CHSC funds have been utilized to put the training into practice at these locations through the purchasing of indoor and outdoor physical activity toys that focus on the development of gross motor skills. Daycares are also striving to support better nutrition through dramatic, imaginative play (play kitchens) and gardening. In 2024, Seneca County supported providers in updating policies and registering with NYS for Breastfeeding Friendly (BFF) designation. BFF actively supports breastfeeding families and helps parents continue breastfeeding when they return to work or school. Upon receiving designation providers were then eligible for additional CHSC funding to improve nursing and lactation space in their



center through the purchase of chairs, sound machines, lighting, modesty screens, and pumping supplies. Universal Pre-Kindergarten programs also saw the benefits of the CHSC grant. CHSC supports the United Way's Family Time Boxes quarterly by supplying an activity to encourage nutrition or physical activity. Family Time Boxes are designed for families to put away their electronic devices and enjoy dinner together. The boxes include conversation starters, activities, recipes, and information. All preschoolers in Seneca County receive a box each month from September through June. That is nearly 300 families!



Community initiatives focus on Food Service Guidelines and Physical Activity Access. CHSC coordinators are working with municipalities and worksites to:

- Conduct assessments
- Facilitate implementation of Activity-Friendly Routes
- Develop Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School
- Improve Food Service Guidelines at worksites and community settings

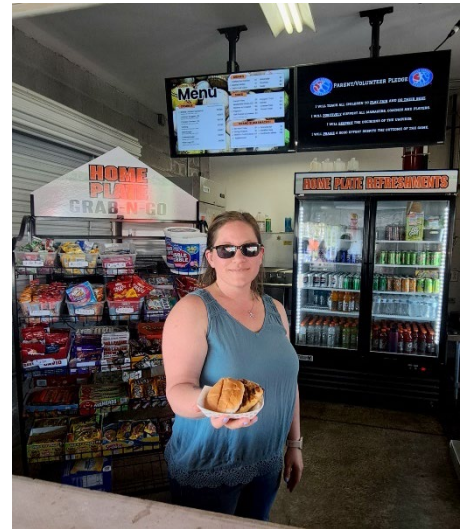
In 2024, CHSC work continued to assist the Villages of Waterloo and Ovid with the development of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) policy and implementation projects. Safe Routes to School encourages increased student physical activity through safe and active transport to and from school. SRTS promotes walking, bicycling, or other forms of active transportation among students and their families. Village of Waterloo secured funding to revitalize the Towpath that connects Locus Street to Oak Street, near the Recreation Center as well as the purchase of two bicycle fix-it stations, which are projected to be installed and complete in Spring 2025. In the Village of Ovid, projects focus on providing residents with amenities that support active transportation, such as rest areas and bicycle parking. Romulus also received funding for the inclusion of Complete Streets language in their newly drafted Comprehensive Plan.

CHSC and the Public Health educators have continued assisting with bike rodeo events in the community. Bike rodeos are a fun way to introduce and educate children to bicycle safety skills. Events can address hand signals, traffic signs, braking, turning, maneuvering, and approaching and crossing intersections, as well as basic bicycle maintenance.



Seneca County Health Department and the CHSC team recognize the importance of promoting physical activity and opportunities to improve literacy for Seneca County residents. New in 2024, are the StoryWalk® sites throughout the County. Waterloo, Romulus, and Seneca Falls School Districts all have sites set up and in fall of 2024, the Village of Ovid had the sole community path along its Main Street. With assistance from STEPS, the CHSC team designed and installed the downtown StoryWalk® course at over 20 participating businesses and agencies displaying the books "Cycle City" and "Bicycle Bash," by Alison Farrell.

Food Service Guidelines (FSG) are specific food and nutrition standards and sustainability standards for food service operations that can be used to create a food environment that makes healthier choices easier for consumers. Seneca County residents continue to report concerns of food insecurity, making food pantry availability vital. CHSC team members have worked with pantries throughout the County to upgrade equipment like refrigerators and freezers allowing for increased quantities of fresh produce, dairy, and lean meats. Rolling carts and shelving have aided volunteers with the set-up of distribution events and deliveries. Community and worksites also qualify for projects under CHSC grant objectives. In 2024, Waterloo Little League participated with CHSC and underwent a major project to improve their nutrition practices at their concession stand. A new refrigerator allowed for healthier beverage options including 100% fruit juice and snacks like apple slices, string cheese, and yogurt options. Shelving and advertising were installed to encourage healthier snacks, a food warmer was added to maintain food safety, and digital display boards and availability of product nutrition information all supported the promotion of healthy menu options. Feedback from patrons showed tremendous support for healthy menu options, especially the newly added grilled chicken sandwich!



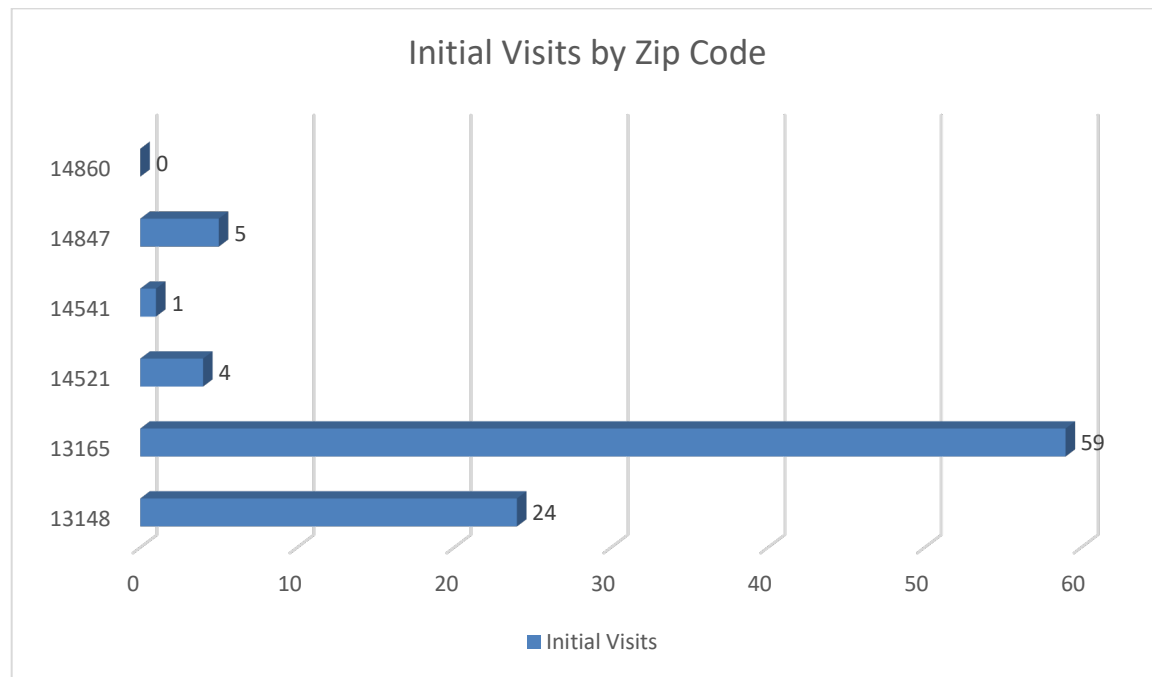
### **Seneca County Healthy Neighborhoods Program (SCHNP) Grant**

The Seneca County Healthy Neighborhoods Program (SCHNP) is a New York State grant funded program with the focus of reducing accidents and removing hazards in the home to prevent injuries and hospitalizations. The most common areas addressed by SCHNP are fire prevention, fall prevention, asthma/allergy control, and injury reduction. The program consists of two types of visits, an initial visit which is the first time SCHNP staff enter a resident's home, and a revisit that occurs 2-6 months post-initial visit and serves as a progress check. There are no income or age requirements. SCHNP launched in April of 2022 and is currently in its' third year of operation (April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024-March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025). SCHNP is free to county residents living in the following zip codes: 13148, 13165, 14541, 14521, 14847, and 14860.

In August of 2024, the Seneca County Healthy Neighborhoods Program expanded its' eligibility into the 13148-zip code after approval from the New York State Department of Health. With the addition of 13148, most of Seneca County is now eligible for SCHNP. Year Three of the program is expected to be the program's best to date, achieving over 100 initial visits.

## Home Visits by Zip Code

In 2024, 93 initial visits were conducted, and 25 revisits were completed. The two eligible zip codes in the northern region (13148 & 13165) of Seneca County are the most popular for initial visits. Of the 93 total initial visits completed in 2024, 83 visits occurred in northern Seneca County. Fifty-eight of the 83 north county visits were in 13165, SCHNP staff are working to increase the number of visits in the southern region of the county, particularly the 14860 zip code area, by working to identify key community stakeholders in this region to increase program interest.



## Materials Distributed

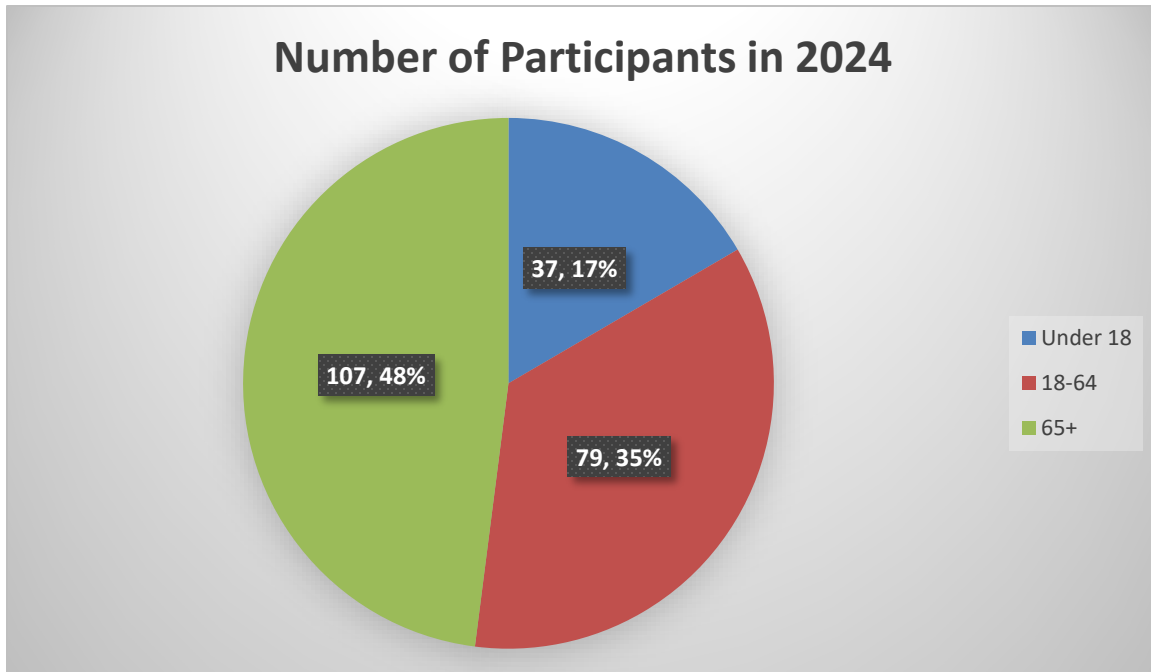
Fire prevention continues to be a big focus for SCHNP. In 2024, 250 smoke detectors and 89 carbon monoxide alarms were installed in Seneca County homes. In addition, 69 fire extinguishers and 19 fire ladders were given out to residents. SCHNP has also provided older residents with mobility issues with new walkers and rollators to prevent them from falling in their home and out in the community. HEPA filter vacuums have been purchased and provided to families that were referred to SCHNP by the Seneca County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to help with the remediation of lead in their homes. Twenty-six anti-slip bathmats and six shower chairs have been given to residents with concerns of falls while bathing.

Item	Amount Distributed
Smoke Detectors	250
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	89
Fire Extinguishers	69
Fire Ladders	19



## Number of People Served

A total of 223 residents participated in the program in 2024 across 118 total visits. The most popular age group served was the 65 and older, which was close to half the number of participants. This is a trend that has been observed since the inception of the program. The chart below shows a breakdown of participants by their age group.



## Essential Service 4: Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 4 involves convening and facilitating community groups in undertaking defined preventive and population focused activities to capture the full range of potential resources to solve community health problems.*

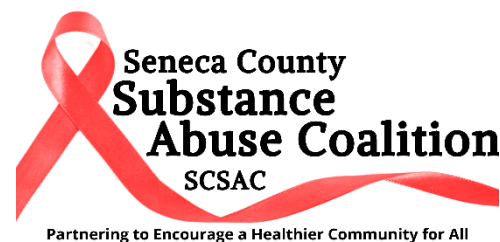
### Community Partnerships

Seneca County Health Department (SCHD) leads the Seneca Health Solutions Committee that works collaboratively on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) initiatives outlined in Essential Service 1 (see pages 7-8).

As a member of the Tobacco Action Coalition of the Finger Lakes (TACFL) SCHD supports and encourages businesses, municipalities, housing complexes, and media outlets to consider smoke-free or tobacco-free policies for their grounds or other aspects of their operation/location.



Seneca County Health Department staff is also a member of the Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition working with community members and organizations to reduce underage drinking & tobacco and marijuana use among youth and is working to educate the community about opioid addiction.



### Naloxone Program

Seneca County Health Department staff work in partnership with the Seneca County Mental Health Department and the Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition to educate the community about opioids and to train law enforcement personnel, first responders and the general community in the use of Naloxone, which is used to reverse an opioid overdose. The primary purpose of the program is to educate our community to reduce the number of unintentional deaths caused by opioid overdoses in Seneca County. It is recommended that a usage report be completed and reported to the NYSDOH each time naloxone is administered by participating responders. In 2024, the SCHD provided Naloxone kits to the Seneca Falls Police Department, Waterloo Police Department, Interlaken Police Department, the Seneca County Sheriff's Office, Seneca County Probation Department, Border City Fire Department, Waterloo Fire Department, and Seneca Falls Fire Department. In 2024, our certified staff distributed 113 naloxone kits and trained 71 individuals to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose situation.



In May 2024, a quality improvement initiative was launched to enhance the visibility and usage of the NaloxBox located in the SCHD entry foyer. The project involved creating new signage to draw attention to the NaloxBox, which provides free Narcan kits to staff and visitors. This effort has proved successful, as we have seen an increase in the total number of kits taken from 7, prior to the project, to 20 between May and December of 2024. The Narcan supply is managed and monitored daily by health educators.

## Regional Collaborative Initiatives

Through our regional collaboration we can enhance public health practices. Our region is made up of public health experts, administrators and providers, all focused on the common goal of making our region healthier. We are good alone, but better together. These partnerships help accelerate improvements across the region by leveraging resources, expertise, and energy to achieve better outcomes than any one organization can achieve on their own.

Seneca County Health Department staff participated in the following regional collaborative initiatives: the Finger Lakes Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition, the Sexual Health Coalition, the Reproductive Health Coalition, and several subcommittees associated with the STEPS Neighborhood Improvement Project including: The STEPS Risers, Personal Health and Wellness, and Improving the Physical Environment. The SCHD is also a member of the Pivotal Public Health Partnership which unites local health departments in the Finger Lakes region to collaboratively develop and promote public health programming and best practices. More about Pivotal can be found in the Essential Service 10 section later in this report.



Essential Service 5: Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 5 involves providing leadership for systematic community and state level planning for health improvement; development and tracking of measurable health objectives as a part of continuous quality improvement strategies; and development of codes, regulations, and legislation to guide the practice of public health.*

## **Seneca County Health Department Strategic Planning 2023-2026**

### **Vision**

To achieve healthy communities and safe environments for all.

### **Mission**

To improve health by providing quality preventive programs and services that respect the cultural diversity of our residents. Through collaboration with our community partners, we promote healthy lifestyles to prevent disease and support safe, healthy environments where we live, work and play.

### **Values**

- Integrity
- Commitment to Excellence
- Ongoing Education
- Collaboration
- Respect

Our Strategic Plan outlines SCHD goals in an effort to achieve its optimum performance and function. Activities to support and attain the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan have been identified. The strategic priorities identified for the Seneca County Health Department are:

- **Strategic Priority 1:** Strengthen communication and collaboration within the health department and across county partners.
- **Strategic Priority 2:** Post COVID, re-position Seneca County Health Department as a trusted leader in community health improvement.
- **Strategic Priority 3:** Strengthen and foster an ongoing culture of continuous quality improvement.

### **Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (PHEP)**

The primary responsibility of Local Health Departments (LHDs) is to promote and protect the health of their residents. A critical component of this responsibility is planning for health emergencies caused by deliberate acts, accidents, and naturally occurring events. Health emergencies can include terrorist threats, outbreaks of infectious diseases, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological incidents. To ensure that LHDs are ready to respond to such threats, LHDs must conduct a health emergency preparedness program as a condition of State Aid

eligibility. We work cooperatively with our community preparedness partners to plan for all hazards and to be ready to respond to all hazardous events.

## **2024 Preparedness Activities**

- Annual Ebola Exercise – September 2024
- Emergency Preparedness Drill (Annual Requirement)
- A Pertussis outbreak was identified on April 1, 2024, resulting in the offering of a Pertussis pod on April 11, 2024, at the South Seneca High School.
- Seneca County LEPC Committee Meetings
- Completion of four quarterly communications drills with local leadership, response partners, regional NYSDOH Emergency Preparedness staff, and SCHD Emergency Preparedness staff utilizing the Health Commerce System (HCS). - February, May, August, November
- Four quarterly communications drills to assure the reliance of the Government Emergency Telecommunications Service/Wireless Priority Service (GETS/WPS) priority communications channels. - January, April, July and October
- Staff annual trainings – Offered twice to current staff in April and to new staff in July and August
- Volunteer Drills – January, April, August, September
- Attendance and participation at quarterly Western Region Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition (HEPC) meetings
- Completion of the NYSDOH Annual Preparedness Survey
- Annual Fit-Testing of all SCHD staff and contractors
- Continuous updates to the Emergency Preparedness Communications Plan and Directory
- Attendance and participation with Finger Lakes Public Health Alliance Mutual Aid Agreement exercises
- Sent our Public Health Staff Resource Assistant to Yates County Public Health to assist with a pop-up clinic in response to a local Hepatitis A outbreak.

*Any time the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) (or any Annex) is activated an After-Action Report (AAR) is completed following the response and debrief.*

## **Preparedness Partners and Healthcare Coalition Memberships**

The Seneca County Health Department participates in collaborative planning with other government agencies such as the Finger Lakes Public Health Alliance (FLPHA), Pivotal Public Health Partnership, Regional Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition (HEPC), and the FLPHA Mutual Aid Agreement.



Essential Service 6: Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 6 involves enforcement of sanitary codes, especially in the food industry, protection of drinking water supplies, enforcement of clean air standards, and timely correction of public health hazards.*

## **Environmental Health Services**

Seneca County is a full-service health department, employing Public Health Sanitarians and other staff who are specifically trained in enforcing local and state laws and sanitary codes and in educating the public and others regarding the requirements of those regulations. Enforcement of sanitary codes for the food industry, mobile home parks, campgrounds, public swimming pools, temporary residences, public bathing beaches, public drinking water supplies, clean indoor air laws, childhood lead poisoning, public health hazards, and the local Watershed Protection Law are the primary responsibilities of the Environmental Services Division within the Seneca County Health Department. This year provided some challenges as the department lost one Public Health Sanitarian, however, we were able to hire 3 new Public Health Sanitarians and acquired one Public Health Fellow. Also in 2024, Yates County had a Hepatitis A outbreak, and through our partnership with surrounding counties, we were able to send our Environmental Health Staff Resource Assistant to assist by providing Counter Data Management System (CDMS) assistance at their clinic.

## **Enforcement**

Enforcement actions can take many different forms. When a violation occurs at a regulated facility the violation is documented. Any time that a public health hazard occurs facility staff are immediately notified. The Sanitarian cannot leave the premises until the hazard is addressed and corrected. Many different avenues are taken to gain compliance with regulations at the time of inspection. Some examples of these methods include voluntarily discarding food items, closure of a public swimming pool, or closure of a facility until compliance can be met. Sanitarians routinely provide education for facility staff during inspections and sometimes must issue boil water notices. After exhausting all other methods to gain compliance, or if the observed violations were especially egregious, the Environmental Services Division will initiate enforcement actions that may include sending formal Consent Orders (stipulation agreements) to facility operators or summoning the respondent to a formal Board of Health hearing. Enforcement hearings are normally used as a last resort to gain compliance.

## **Consent Orders**

In 2024, Environmental Health continued utilizing Consent Orders as an enforcement tool. These Consent Orders, which are very similar in legal structure to a Stipulation Agreement, were sent to operators that were alleged to have committed serious violations of Public Water Supply Regulations, Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA) regulations and the Watershed Protection Law. These Consent Orders were accompanied by a cover letter clearly explaining that

if the operator chose to sign and return the Consent Order admitting to the violations, the Consent Order would then be reviewed/ratified by the Board of Health at their next routine meeting. The Consent Orders very clearly defined the violations that occurred and often included payment of a civil penalty (a fine). This method resulted in multiple facility operators admitting alleged violations in 2024, while streamlining the process by eliminating the review that was previously done by the Hearing Officer. This process continues to be efficient in taking formal enforcement actions, collecting civil penalties and, most importantly, in encouraging facilities to comply with various rules and regulations.

### **Formal Enforcement Hearings**

When all other avenues have been exhausted to bring a facility or individual into compliance, or when there is a particularly flagrant or egregious alleged violation, the Health Department initiates the formal Board of Health hearing process by issuing a summons to the alleged violator to appear at a hearing. During the enforcement proceedings the hearing officer listens to testimony and receives evidence from Health Department staff, as well as considering any testimony or evidence offered by the respondent. Once both sides have presented their testimony and evidence, and answered any questions posed by the hearing officer relating to the issue at hand, the hearing officer decides based on the preponderance of evidence. Often, Health Department staff will have documentation in the form of inspections, pictures, and educational opportunities offered to the respondents to support their findings and justify the need for formal enforcement action and any possible civil penalty (a fine) to be imposed.

The Seneca County Board of Health reviews the findings of the hearing officer and any penalties or orders levied by him and votes to either uphold the hearing officer's findings, modify the penalty or order, or discard the recommended enforcement.

### **Food Service Program**

- Issue permits and verifies Workmen's Comp/ Disability information, review plans for new food service facilities.
- Conduct food service inspections to ensure food safety (including pre-operational) at restaurants, temporary food services, mobile food vendors, institutional food facilities, schools, summer feeding program sites, and others.
- Investigating complaints of foodborne illness
- Provide education for food workers and operators.

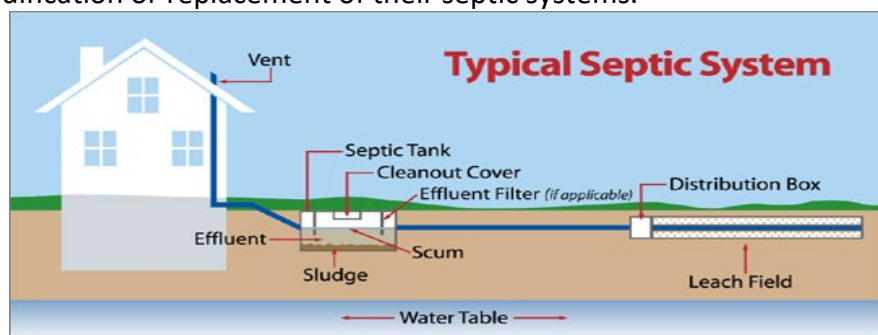
### **Children's Camps**

- Issue permits
- Perform inspections
- Review written safety plans
- Verify camp staff certifications
- Inspect all areas of camp: Pool/beach, sleeping areas, food, recreation programs, medical requirements, supervision of campers/counselors, food service.

- Screen Camp Directors through the NYS Central Register database.
- Investigate/Report abuse allegations and submit findings to the State.

### Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (aka Septic Systems)

- Review engineered wastewater system proposals prior to installation. This review includes being certain the proposals meet all aspects of the NYS Sanitary Code for on-site septic systems and incorporates a site evaluation of each parcel where a system is proposed.
- Maintain records and retain engineering plans of all septic system installations within Seneca County.
- Investigate complaints of overflowing septic systems and require repair or replacement of systems that are found to be failing.
- Provide advice and guidance to system owners, contractors, and design professionals regarding the State requirements for system design and installation.
- In the fall of 2021 Local Law #7, the Watershed Protection Law, was passed by the Seneca County Board of Supervisors. The major goals of this law are: to protect the waterbodies, watersheds, and drinking water sources in the county from residential wastewater containing harmful bacteria, viruses and excess nutrients, which help prevent people from unknowingly purchasing properties with a septic system that is failing or that is likely to fail; to bring Seneca County in-line with other municipalities in the region and across NYS that have enacted septic system inspection laws or regulations in recent years; and to standardize a set of minimum requirements for septic inspections within the county so that buyers and sellers alike know what to expect. This law took effect on April 1, 2022. A variance committee was also formed to review requests from the public asking to have septic system inspections delayed or waived due to unusual circumstances. In 2024, 166 routine septic system inspections were performed in the towns of Covert and Waterloo and 70 property transfer inspections were performed throughout Seneca County because of the Watershed Protection Law.
- In the fall of 2022, the Seneca County Health Department received another round of grant money from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for the New York State Septic Replacement Program. This is the third round of grant money that the county has received and can be used to modify or replace septic systems within 250 feet of Cayuga Lake, Seneca Lak, and Cayuga-Seneca Canal. During 2024, these funds were used to provide reimbursements to 15 households, totaling \$141,013.94 in reimbursements, for the modification or replacement of their septic systems.



## SCHD Permit Issuance 2020-2024 Permits Issued

Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Agricultural Fairground	0	1	1	1	1
Bathing Beach	0	4	4	3	3
Campground	13	15	15	15	15
Children's Camp	0	6	5	4	4
Mobile Home Park	27	29	27	28	27
Swimming Pools	1	10	9	7	8
Tanning Facility	2	1	2	2	2
Temporary Residence	13	14	14	13	14
Mass Gatherings	0	0	0	0	0
Migrant Housing	1	6	6	6	6
Spray Parks	0	0	0	0	0
Tattoo	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Food Establishment</b>					
High Risk	40	47	45	39	42
Low Risk	48	55	52	53	60
Medium Risk	152	136	123	134	141
Mobile Food	21	34	46	58	74
Temporary Food	8	45	75	69	89
Vending Food	2	1	1	1	1

### In addition to issuing permits, the SCHD also conducts Inspections for the following:

- Agricultural fairgrounds, public bathing beaches, campgrounds, children's camps, mobile home parks, public swimming pools, tanning facilities, temporary residences (motels/hotels), migrant labor camps, and food service establishments.
- Children's camps:
  - Review safety plans.
  - Verify background checks for all staff and volunteers.
  - Conduct pre-operational safety inspections and review all camp staff certifications prior to the first day of camp.
- Swimming pools:
  - Review safety plans.
  - Assist in drowning and near drowning investigations.

## 2020-2024 Annual Inspections

Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Agricultural Fairground	0	1	1	1	1
Bathing Beach	0	2	4	5	4
Campground	12	15	14	16	13
Children's Camp	0	12	16	14	13
Mobile Home Park (MHP)	28	29	26	25	13
Swimming Pools	5	10	9	9	8
Tanning Facility (Bi-Yearly)	0	0	2	0	2
Temporary Residence	12	11	16	16	10
Food Establishment	203	177	325	232	153
Migrant Labor Housing	1	10	11	10	8
Mobile Food	10	20	33	48	48
Temporary Food	6	29	58	63	49
ATUPA	35 adult 0 youth	34 adult 29 youth 1 sale	43 adult 33 youth 0 sale	41 adult 71 youth 5 sales	50 adult 78 youth 5 sales
Water Supply	90	70	89	93	81
Septic Plan Submission	84	93	86	71	91
Backflow Device Review	8	2	2	5	3
Subdivision Review	0	0	1	0	0
UV Light Review	1	1	5	4	4
Campground Review	3	5	1	1	0
Water Main Review	6	1	3	5	1
Administrative Hearing	0	1	1	8	8

## Trends

Environmental Health continued to permit an increased number of Migrant Labor housing facilities, as defined by Part 15 of the NYS Sanitary Code. Prior to 2021 there was only one of these facilities in Seneca County. This increased to 6 regulated facilities in 2021 due to an updated definition of a migrant labor facility. We continued to monitor 6 migrant labor housing facilities in 2024.

Awareness of the Watershed Protection Law has increased since its implementation in 2022 which has generated an increased number of complaints alleging failing septic systems. The law has also increased the number of administrative hearings held by the SCHD.

## Water Program

- Public Water Supply systems: 95 total
  - 26 Community Water Supplies (25 Municipal, 1 MHP).
  - 65 Non-Community Water Supplies (restaurants, wineries, campgrounds, etc.)
  - 4 Non-Community, Non-Transient Water Supplies (Private Mennonite Schools)

On March 7, 2022, the Willard Drug Treatment Center closed. The water treatment plant on the site that serves the Willard Drug Treatment Center campus, and the Willard Water District remained open. Continuing in 2024, the water treatment plant continues to be operated by the Town of Romulus.

In 2024, there were 4 boil water orders issues for public water systems in Seneca County.

- June 21, 2024, a boil water order was issued for the Seneca Falls water district for Fall Street extending north of the canal and west to Rumsey Street and was lifted on June 24, 2024.
- July 10, 2024, a water main break resulted in issuing a boil water order for Seneca Falls for Route 89 extending to 116 Troy Street and lifted on July 12, 2024.
- November 14, 2024, there was a loss of pressure in the water line for 24-50 Johnston Street, Seneca Falls, resulting in a boil water order, which was lifted on November 17, 2024.
- November 19, 2024, a boil water order was issued for 3 properties within the Seneca County Water District which suffered a water main break, the order was lifted on November 21, 2024.

### **Water Program Responsibilities**

- Annual sanitary surveys (inspections)
- Oversight of NYS monitoring requirements (sampling and operation reports)
- Annual water quality report review for Community Water Systems
- Enforcement of Part 5 of NYS Sanitary Code
- Review of emergency plans for the 2 Community Water Systems (Seneca Falls and Waterloo) that serve a population of over 3,300
- Review and approval of disinfection systems for new water supplies and public water supply improvements/modifications.

### **Smoking Prevention Program**

Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Program (ATUPA) - 36 Facilities.

All facilities selling tobacco products within Seneca County (with limited exceptions) typically receive the following:

- An underage compliance check – a person under the age of 21 attempts to purchase tobacco products.
- A registration and signage compliance check to verify current Department of Taxation and Finance (DTF) licensure and minimum required signage prohibiting sales to underage persons.

Environmental Services takes enforcement against any facilities that sell tobacco products to minors. In 2024 there were 5 sales of tobacco products to a person(s) under the age of 21 at regulated facilities.



## Vector Control

### Rabies Program Responsibilities

- Exposure incident investigations and follow up
- Approval and payment of rabies post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) administration for individuals possibly exposed to rabies vectors within Seneca County
- Collection, and submission of rabies samples (i.e. bats, raccoons, unvaccinated domestic animals) to Wadsworth Laboratory
- Oversight of animal confinements following a biting incident, including 10-day and 6-month confinements
- 4 annual free rabies vaccination clinics
- Education



### Rabies Program Data



In 2024, SCHD continued to use the Countermeasure Data Management System (CDMS), an online registration format, for vaccination clinics. Through this system, animal owners can select the date, time and clinic location that best suits their schedule. This change has freed up staff time as all registrations, documents and information were directed through a dedicated email address.

Four free drive-through rabies clinics were provided during 2024 with the cooperation of our local venues, veterinarians, animal handlers, and members of the Environmental and Public Health staff. In 2024, we had to regulate signups at a pre-set threshold and turn people away because sign-ups were full. Additionally, the disposing of unused vaccine due to pre-registered no shows, resulted in the unnecessary waste of resources. Upon consulting with our veterinarians, it has been determined that we can vaccinate a larger population of animals if we revert to a “walk-thru” clinic style, as opposed to the “drive-thru” format utilized since the pandemic. For 2025, we intend to utilize the walk-through clinic format to meet the increasing need for animal vaccinations and to minimize the waste of resources.

A summary of our 2024 rabies clinic activities is included in the Rabies Clinic Activity Summary chart below.

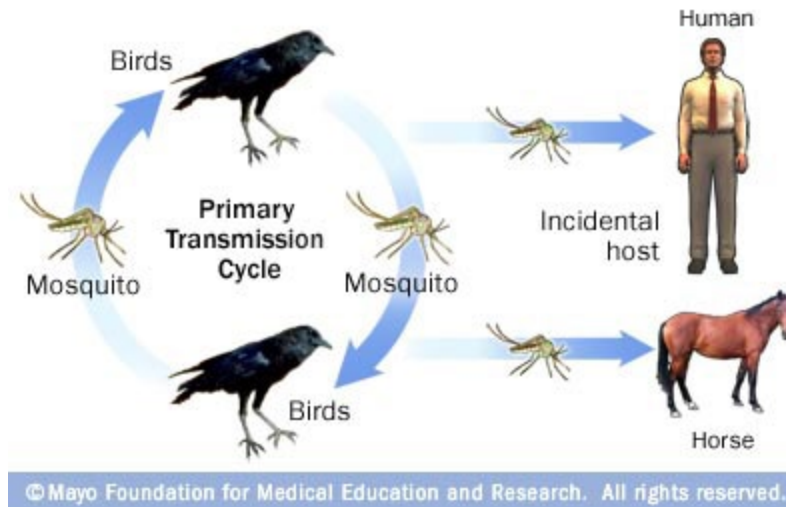
### 2020-2024 Rabies Activity Summary

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
# Animals Vaccinated	244	276	260	334	378
# PEP Authorized	18	20	24	20	34
# PEP without insurance	3	8	0	1	2
# of 10-day confinements	69	96	91	66	100
# 6-month confinements	0	4	0	0	1
# animals sent for testing	26	11	21	19	22
# of untestable specimens	0	1	0	0	1
# positive specimens	2	0	1	1	2
<b>Positive Specimens</b>					
Raccoon	0	0	0	0	1
Fox	2	0	0	0	1
Cat	0	0	0	0	0
Bat	0	0	1	0	0
Skunk	0	0	0	1	0

Animal bites are reported to the health department and follow-up is conducted to assure that measures are taken to prevent rabies transmission. Public Health Sanitarians conduct follow-up of bite reports and approve post exposure treatment for those people potentially exposed to rabies. In 2024, two SCHD staff members received Post Exposure Prophylaxis due to a possible rabies exposure while packaging a fox for testing, which came back positive for rabies. Both employees are safe and well.

**Mosquito Control:** The NYS Department of Health performs routine monitoring and surveillance for the presence of West Nile Virus (WNV), Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), and Zika virus throughout NYS, including in the Finger Lakes region. In 2024, there were no reported cases of WNV, EEE, or Zika virus in Seneca County.





## 24-hour Environmental Health On-Call

A Public Health Sanitarian is on call evenings, holidays, and weekends to receive reports regarding possible rabies exposures, environmental health related emergencies affecting regulated facilities, and water supply emergencies. In 2024 there were 46 after-hour calls, 3 resulting in staff call outs. Having a 24-hour on-call service helps achieve healthy and safe communities for all Seneca County residents.

## Public Health Nuisance Complaints

Public Health Sanitarians investigate allegations of overflowing wastewater systems (dye testing when necessary), water supply contamination, unsanitary conditions, etc. The following chart illustrates those investigations.

### Nuisance Complaints 2020-2024

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Cleanliness</b>	1	2	0	1	5
<b>Insects</b>	0	0	1	1	5
<b>Health Concerns</b>	0	9	3	1	1
<b>Rodents</b>	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Garbage</b>	1	0	0	1	0
<b>Sewage</b>	0	0	5	9	2
<b>General</b>	4	1	0	6	10
<b>Illness</b>	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Fire Safety</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Smoking (CIAA)</b>	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Water</b>	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Other</b>	11	1	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>

## **Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs)**

Harmful algae blooms have become more common across the nation, including here in the Finger Lakes region. In 2024, staff from the Seneca County Health Department continued to monitor suspect and confirmed HAB outbreaks with our regional partners from the NYSDOH and NYSDEC.

In 2024, there were multiple confirmed HABs reported on both Cayuga Lake and Seneca Lake. The anticipated trend is that we will see more harmful algae blooms occurring in Seneca County and around the region due to excessive nutrient load into our lakes and the effects of climate change. Unfortunately, 2024 saw the earliest ever HAB on Cayuga Lake, as well as a record number of confirmed HABs on Cayuga.

Environmental Health staff provides the following in response to harmful algae bloom activity:

- Inform the public about the presence of harmful algae blooms
- Educating the public about health and safety precautions
- Work with regional and local partners when outbreaks are confirmed
- Take water samples and send samples for testing to confirm the presence of algal toxins
- Work with local public water supply operators to monitor the presence of algal toxins in drinking water

## **Household Hazardous Waste**

The Seneca County Health Department provides an annual household hazardous waste collection day each fall. During this event, residents typically drop off several thousand pounds of household hazardous waste materials including pesticides, hazardous paint, stains and resins, fluorescent bulbs, mercury, and other materials. Partial funding for this event is provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Advertising support is provided by Seneca Meadows Inc., and in 2024 Seneca Meadows Inc. assisted the Seneca County Health Department by accepting used tires that were brought to the event by area residents. In addition to our staff, manpower and facilities are provided by the Seneca County Highway Department.

## Household Hazardous Waste Day 2024 Summary

103 cars participated and the following hazardous waste materials were collected:

ANTIFREEZE	POUNDS	55
HAZARDOUS PAINT	POUNDS	1200
AUTOMOTIVE BATTERIES	POUNDS	0
HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES	POUNDS	0
PESTICIDES (SOLIDS)	POUNDS	800
PESTICIDES (LIQUIDS)	POUNDS	40
MERCURY THERMOSTATS	POUNDS	0
OTHER MERCURY CONTAINING DEVICES	POUNDS	0
BULK MERCURY	POUNDS	0
CRT TVS/MONITORS	POUNDS	0
NON-CRT TVS/MONITORS	POUNDS	0
OTHER ELECTRONICS	POUNDS	0
OTHER HHW (SOLIDS)	POUNDS	100
OTHER HHW (LIQUIDS)	POUNDS	80
MISCELLANEOUS SOLID WASTE (SOLIDS)	POUNDS	150
MISCELLANEOUS SOLID WASTE (LIQUIDS)	GALLONS	250
FLUORESCENT BULBS	ITEM	600
AEROSOLS	CANISTERS	400
TIRES	ITEM	264

## Childhood Lead Poisoning Investigations

Studies show that no lead exposure is safe for children. Even low levels of lead in blood can affect children's health including reduced growth indicators; delayed puberty; lowered IQ; and hyperactivity, attention, behavior, and learning problems.

When a new elevated blood lead level (EBLL) case is identified and referred to Seneca County Environmental Services, our staff conducts in-home assessments to determine the sources of lead exposure and then provides environmental case management to help families reduce their environmental risks. In 2024 Sanitarians investigated 14 EBLL cases.

## Enforcement Actions

When critical or repetitive violations of the NYS Sanitary Code occur at regulated facilities, local health departments have the authority under Public Health Law to initiate a formal Board of Health hearing. The hearing examiner listens to testimony of the events and if it is determined that the respondent is in violation of the New York State Sanitary Code, he often imposes a civil penalty (fine) and/or an order to remedy. The Board of Health reviews the findings and any

penalty or order and votes to uphold or change the findings of the hearing examiner. The table below summarizes formal enforcements undertaken by the Seneca County Health Department over the last several years. It is anticipated that the Watershed Protection Law will continue generating a significant number of formal enforcement actions, including hearings.

### 2020-2024 Enforcement Actions

Program	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>Water</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Septic</b>					
Installation of system without approved plans	0	0	1	8	3
<b>Local Law No. 7</b>					
Various violations	n/a	n/a	0	9	7
<b>Food Service</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>ATUPA</b>					
Sale of tobacco product to individual < 21	0	0	0	1	5

Essential Service 7: Assure an effective system that enables equitable access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 7 involves assuring effective entry for disadvantaged people into a coordinated system of clinical care; linkage to services for special population groups; ongoing care coordination; targeted health information to high-risk population groups and technical assistance for effective worksite health promotion/disease prevention programs.*

### **Children's programs**

The children's programs administered by Seneca County Public Health include the following:

#### **Maternal & Child Health (MCH)**

The Seneca County Maternal Child Health Program offers a wide range of services to ensure the health and well-being of new mothers and their babies. The program is designed to provide support, education, and referrals to other agencies for new parents in Seneca County. The Maternal Child Health Program offers the following services:

- Prenatal & Postnatal Education:
  - The program offers education on various aspects of pregnancy, childbirth, and caring for a newborn.
- Breastfeeding Support:
  - The program provides in-person or phone assistance for breastfeeding, with 2 Certified Lactation Counselors (CLCs) on staff at the health department.
- Referrals:
  - The program can refer new mothers to other agencies and services in the community as needed.



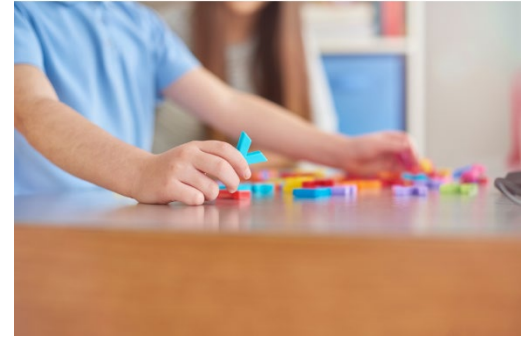
#### **Outreach Encounters**

In 2024, the program had 287 outreach encounters with new parents. As part of the Maternal Child Health Program all new parents receive a “Welcome Baby” packet, which includes a welcome letter, a Seneca County resource guide, and numerous educational and informational materials. The program also offers referrals to other agencies and services in the community, such as the Child Passenger Safety Seat Program, Healthy Neighborhood Program, Early Intervention Program, Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs Program, and Childhood Immunization Program.

In 2024, SCHD had one new Public Health Nurse trained as a Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC). The Public Health Nurse is also an active member of the Maternal Child Health Regional Workgroup, working with partners to increase breastfeeding rates in Seneca County. The Maternal Child Health Regional Workgroup provides breastfeeding friendly education and certification for daycares in collaboration with the Child and Family Resource Center.

**Preschool Special Education Program** (also known as the Pre-School Program): Provides special education services to children 3-5 years of age who qualify under NY State Education Guidelines.

**Child Find:** Assures that all infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities, or who are suspected of having a developmental delay, have developmental screenings, a medical home, and health insurance.



### **Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program (CYSHCN)**

The CYSHCN Program provides information and referral services for health and related areas for families. There is no cost to families. Families with children birth to 21 years of age, who have or are suspected of having a serious or chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition which will require health or related services of a type or amount beyond that required by a typical child are eligible for the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program (CYSHCN). Staff assist families by making referrals to available resources that can assist the families in meeting the needs of their child.



### **Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Supportive Services (CYSHCN-SS)**

CYSHCN-SS provides financial assistance, paying co-pays and deductibles for medical services and referrals for medical care for children (newborn-21 years old) who have or are suspected of having a disabling condition or serious chronic illness. Parent payments are based on income guidelines. Providers bill Medicaid and private insurance companies for services. New York State reimburses the county for 50% of the remaining balance. In 2024, the program provided services to 10 children.



	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>CYSHCNSS Program Costs</b>	\$22,659.29	\$14,345.51	\$9,409.89	\$14,057.77	\$9,740.87	\$9,043.66
<b>Total CSHCN Families Assisted</b>	9	12	8	10	12	10
<b>Age &lt;1</b>	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Ages 1&lt;3</b>	1	4	2	2	0	0
<b>Ages 3&lt;5</b>	1	3	2	2	3	1
<b>Ages 5&lt;13</b>	4	4	2	5	7	5
<b>Ages 13&lt;19</b>	0	1	2	1	2	4
<b>Ages &gt;19</b>	1	0	0	0	0	0

Assistance provided to families in 2024 included:

- Physician Services
- Tests (labs, x-ray, echo's, EKG etc.)
- Assistance with special formula and/or another nutritional supplementation for feeding issues
- Supplies (durable medical and disposable supplies)

### **Early Intervention Program (EIP)**

The Early Intervention Program is a statewide program providing early identification, screening, evaluation, special services, and service coordination for infants and toddlers at risk for developmental delays or who have an actual delay. Children from birth to 3 years old with suspected developmental delays, a diagnosed disability, or conditions affecting development are eligible to receive a multi-disciplinary evaluation at no cost to families. Services offered in 2024 included Special Instruction, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Respite Service Coordination and Transportation. These services can be provided within the community setting or the child's home. Children may also be eligible to receive these services in a structured playgroup known as a Developmental Toddler Group. Service Coordinators work with families in their homes to meet the special needs of each child, as well as assisting and referring families to other community resources. These resources may include Medicaid, SSI, or medical insurance. Any person, such as a parent, day care provider, family member or primary care physician may make a referral to the EIP with the parents' permission. The EIP is voluntary, and the parents can opt out at any time. Contact is made with each parent when a referral is received, and an evaluation is scheduled at the parent's request. Referrals that do not result in services to children are often due to parents opting out of the Early Intervention Program for a variety of reasons, or the child not qualifying for services due to developmental milestone thresholds.

The Early Intervention Program received 98 new referrals in 2024 and a total of 148 children received services through this program.

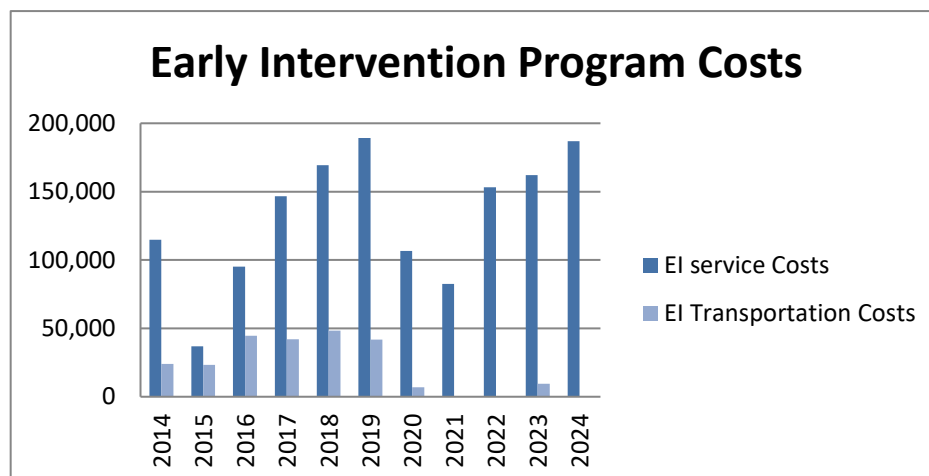


Early Intervention Program			
Program Year	# of referrals	# of referred children who qualified for EI	# of children enrolled in EI
2014	65	28	61
2015	63	36	73
2016	68	56	70
2017	92	66	60
2018	79	46	99
2019	101	63	163
2020	82	20	141
2021	85	36	87
2022	95	66	131
2023	101	49	132
2024	98	37	148

There is a trend showing that the children who qualify for services are requiring more intensive services especially since more children are being diagnosed at a younger age with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Services are provided according to the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP), which is a written agreement between the Early Intervention Program official/designee and the family. All services are family centered, with parent participation encouraged. Eligible children must transition to the Preschool Program within specified timeframes prior to their third birthday.

Transportation for the Early Intervention and Pre-School Programs is provided under contract by Transpo Bus Services. Transportation is provided to children who are eligible to receive services in a center-based setting such as Happiness House in Geneva. Unfortunately, due to staffing issues at the center-based providers, there were no toddler groups offered in 2024.

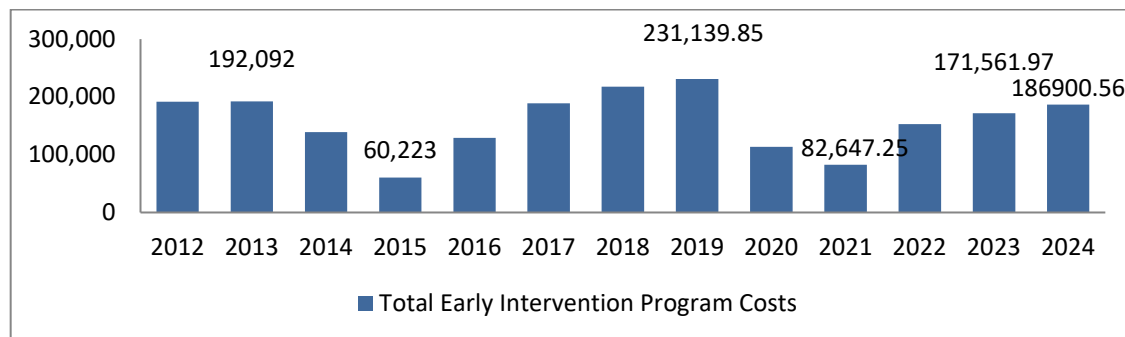


### EI Program cost for 2024:

- Service costs \$186,900.56
- Transportation costs \$0
- Total EIP costs \$186,900.56
- Net cost to the county after state reimbursement \$95,319.29
- We received \$113,823.11 in state reimbursement during 2024.

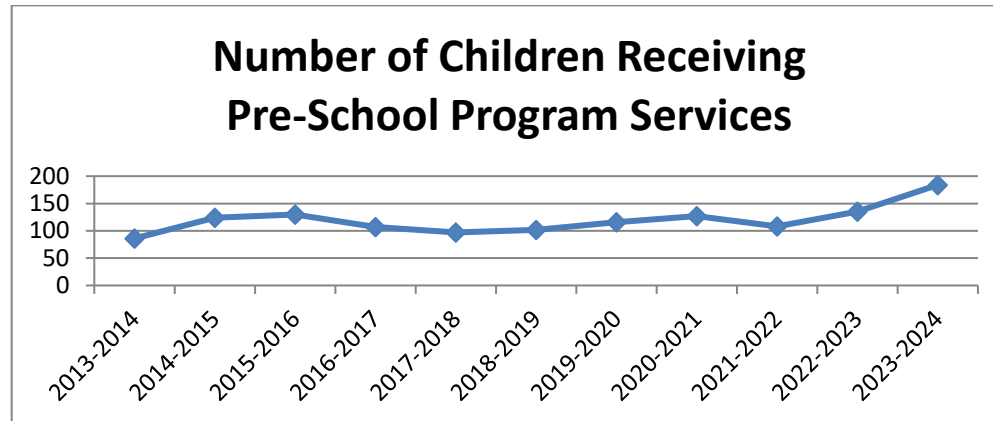
During 2024 the state implemented a new database called EI Hub. Due to this new database some veteran providers decided to leave the program. Speech therapy is the area most impacted, leaving Seneca County with one part time speech therapist. Service Coordinators have continued to substitute Special Education to help children with speech concerns. Along with providers leaving the program, the process of transitioning over to a completely new database was not smooth. Despite virtual and in-person training, glitches in the system itself left service coordinators, counties, and providers alike frustrated. New York State counties along with the New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) worked with the Public Consulting Group to make changes to the EI Hub that better fits the processes of the program. At the end of 2024 there continue to be improvements made to that system. Payments to providers have also been delayed due to the implementation of the EI Hub.

Included with the EIP is the Child Find component which is charged in assuring that all children have developmental screenings, a medical home, and health insurance. NYSDOH has a permanent fiscal agent that does the billing/claiming function in conjunction with EIP providers. While providers now deal directly with the state contracted fiscal agent for payment, the County deposits funds into an escrow account held by NYSDOH every two weeks. While direct payment for services has shifted away from the county, assurance that the children are receiving adequate services remains the responsibility of the SCHD. In 2022, SCHD discontinued billing private insurance for children's services and due to this change, we have Covered Lives credits on escrow invoices. The Early Intervention Coordinating Council (EICC) is still advocating for an increase in provider reimbursement as concerns over a growing deficit between provider capacity and children's needs increases.

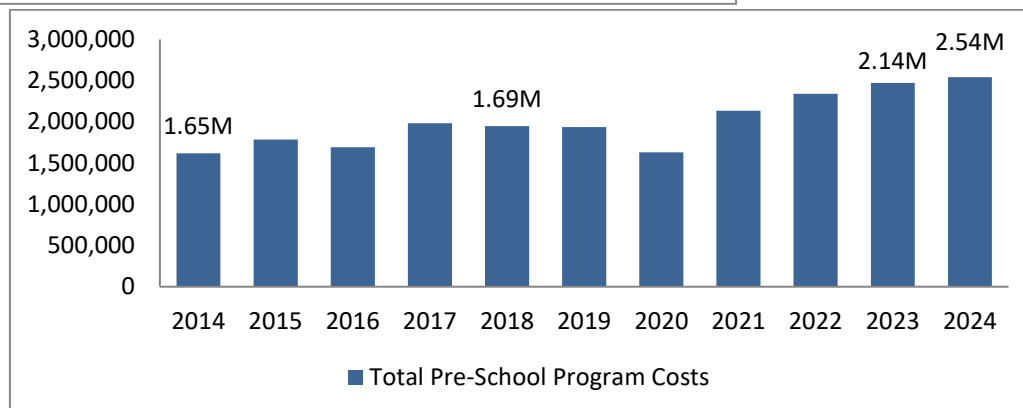
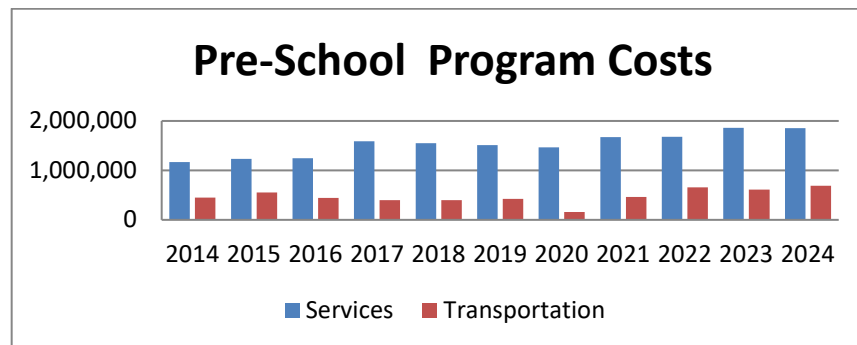


## Pre-School

Preschool services are provided to children aged three to five years who meet eligibility criteria set forth by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). Services are provided in the “least restrictive environment,” which may include home, daycare/preschool, or in a center-based program.



Services are discussed by the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) after the performance of a multidisciplinary evaluation (MDE) by a county contracted evaluator. Services are then approved by the CPSE in the child’s home school district.



Transportation by Transpo Bus Services is available to any child receiving services in a center-based program. Parents also have the option to transport their child to their program and receive mileage reimbursement. Transpo Bus Services provides transportation services for both the Early Intervention and Pre-School Programs. The average daily cost per child for transportation in the Pre-School Program was \$124.71 in 2024.

**Preschool Cost for 2024:**

Service Cost: \$2,254,251.90

Center-Based Program: \$1,878,530.71

Related Services: \$262,378.00

Evaluations: \$35,832.00

School District Administrative Costs: \$77,511.19

Transportation cost: \$687,890.94

Total cost: \$ 2,942,142.84

State Reimbursement \$ 974,063.88

Medicaid Reimbursement: \$105,658.22

Total Reimbursement: \$1,079,722.10

During 2024, SCHD held our rates for related services (those received at home) at \$65 per half hour session. Center-based service rates are set by NYSED and vary depending on the type of class. These rates are often adjusted by NYSED during and after the school year. Unfortunately, NYSED does not provide any prior notice of pending rate adjustments.

## Essential Service 8: Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 8 involves educating and training personnel to meet the needs for public and personal health service; adoption of continuous quality improvement and life-long learning and active partnership with academic institutions. To provide the highest quality public health service, the Seneca County Health Department strives to ensure that all our staff possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform their jobs effectively and efficiently. Highlighted in this section is Workforce Development.*

### Workforce Development

The Seneca County Health Department maintains a Workforce Development Plan (WFD) and in mid-2024, updates to the WFD began as part of the reaccreditation process. The WFD plan ensures staff development through required or optional training courses is addressed, coordinated and appropriate for our department's needs.



It is imperative that health departments have the capacity to perform core public health functions to meet the current and evolving needs of our community. Annually, all staff members are provided with opportunities to increase their competencies. Some training courses are assigned, while others can be selected based on interest. Staff have the opportunity to reassess their organizational knowledge in areas such as, but not limited to:

- CLAS Standards (Culturally Linguistic Appropriate Services)
- How to facilitate effective meetings
- Confidentiality
- Cultural Diversity
- Performance Management Quality Improvement (PMQI)

Essential Service 9: Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 9 calls for ongoing evaluation of health programs to assess program effectiveness and to provide information necessary for allocating resources and shaping programs. Measures for assessing this essential service indicate a need for strengthening Seneca County Health Department activities in this domain.*

### **Performance Management and Quality Improvement (PMQI)**

The Seneca County Health Department has adopted a PMQI system. Implementation of our PMQI process is conducted by a PMQI committee. The committee is tasked with evaluating the performance and quality of public health systems. The committee meets monthly to ensure that SCHD staff continue to utilize the PMQI process and functions daily.



Performance Management is a systematic process which helps an organization achieve its mission and strategic goals by improving effectiveness, empowering employees, and streamlining decision making.

In practice, performance management often means actively using data to improve performance, including the strategic use of performance standards, measures, progress reports, and ongoing quality improvement efforts to ensure an agency achieves desired results.

### **Public Health Accreditation**

In 2020, the Seneca County Health Department, along with public health departments in Wayne, Yates, Schuyler, Steuben, and Ontario counties achieved National Public Health Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). In 2024, meetings were held with both staff internally and regionally to begin working on submissions for each of the 10 domains listed below to demonstrate our capabilities and capacities. Domains are groups of standards that relate to a broad group of health services. They are as follows:

Domain 1: Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets

Domain 2: Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population

Domain 3: Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it

Domain 4: Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health

Domain 5: Create, Champion and implement policies, plans and laws that impact health

Domain 6: Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health

Domain 7: Contribute to an effective system that enables equitable access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy



Domain 8: Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce

Domain 9: Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research,  
and continuous quality improvement

Domain 10: Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health

More information on the Public Health Accreditation process is available at [www.phaboard.org](http://www.phaboard.org).

Essential Service 10: Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health.

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**Introduction:** *Essential Service 10 includes continuous linkage with appropriate institutions of higher learning and research.*

### **Pivital Public Health Partnership (formerly S2AY Rural Health Network)**

The Pivital Public Health Partnership is a non-profit affiliation of eight county Public Health Departments in the Finger Lakes region of New York State, including Chemung, Livingston, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates Counties. They focus on improving the health and well-being of Finger Lakes residents by promoting health equity in populations who experience disparities. This partnership helps accelerate improvements across the region by leveraging resources, expertise, and energy to achieve better outcomes than any one organization might achieve on their own.

### **Pivital Objectives**

Developing comprehensive and cost-effective health care systems, including dental care, that increase access to care and fill gaps in service delivery.

- Increasing and strengthening cooperation through affiliation, coalitions or partnerships that enhance and coordinate the array of health care services needed.
- Improving the financial viability of rural health care providers and in the existing health care economy.
- Increasing community involvement and locally generated, innovative solutions to health care system issues.
- Increasing the number of health care personnel trained and practicing in rural communities.
- Strengthening the accountability of local providers for improvements in key public health and/or health care outcomes in the communities they serve.

### **Major Network Activities**

A wide variety of public health quality improvement and assurance initiatives, including corporate compliance, in-service training, review and development of over 200 joint policies and procedures, and staff committees on Public Health, Early Childhood and regional sub-committees to support member counties Community Health Improvement Plan strategies and interventions. Pivital's Performance Management Quality Control Coordinator assists member counties with strengthening and maintaining their Performance Management and Quality Improvement processes and use of research-based interventions and strategies. Significant effort is also focused on the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) reaccreditation process for six of the eight network counties, including Seneca County.

Participation in and leadership on various groups, such as New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH), Western New York Rural-Area Health Education Center (R-AHEC), Finger Lakes Perinatal Network, New York State Oral Health Coalition, Finger Lakes Performing Provider System

(FLPPS), and Common Ground Health continued throughout 2024. Joint regional efforts typically focus on worksite wellness, food insecurity, breastfeeding, and hypertension to prevent and reduce the burden of chronic disease in Seneca County and across the Finger Lakes region.

## SCHD Financial Reports & Expenditures

### 2024 Financial Report

Program	2024 Expense Budget	2024 Actual Cost	2024 Revenue	2024 State Aid & ITPH	2024 Cost to County
PH/EH ADMIN	\$1,214,444.43	\$1,276,064.26	\$194,325.41	\$519,655.54	\$562,083.31
Chronic Disease Prevention (Includes CHSC Grant)	\$341,890.00	\$344,835.15	\$224,481.30	\$100,037.15	\$20,316.70
General Communicable Disease (Includes COVID, FLU, ELC & STG Grants)	\$202,682.00	\$119,822.87	\$9,845.00	\$78,706.98	\$31,270.89
Immunizations (Includes IAP Grant)	\$139,671.00	\$103,498.95	\$47,763.26	\$38,341.12	\$17,394.57
Rabies (Includes Rabies Grant)	\$59,236.00	\$86,207.16	\$10,833.00	\$45,703.87	\$29,670.29
STD/HIV	\$11,128.00	\$22,472.29	\$0.00	\$14,336.55	\$8,135.74
Outpatient TB	\$2,435.00	\$8,996.65	\$0.00	\$5,670.50	\$3,326.15
Emergency Preparedness (Includes BT/PHEP& FELLO Grants)	\$455,831.00	\$215,703.16	\$185,653.70	\$20,814.27	\$9,235.19
Injury Prevention and Control	\$30,815.00	\$48,174.06	\$0.00	\$36,233.20	\$11,940.86
Lead Poisoning Prevention (Includes Lead Grant)	\$65,549.00	\$79,385.22	\$31,337.31	\$31,271.70	\$16,776.21
Community Health and Food Protection Programs (Includes ATUPA Grant)	\$76,364.00	\$105,257.13	\$61,953.76	\$27,232.79	\$16,070.58
Water Supply Protection Program (Includes WEG)	\$122,601.00	\$148,928.15	\$103,493.63	\$31,122.11	\$14,312.41
Child Health (Includes CYSHCN and EI Admin Grant)	\$84,549.00	\$78,558.14	\$67,136.99	\$6,674.78	\$4,746.37
Maternal & Infant Health	\$30,625.00	\$46,084.88	\$0.00	\$30,458.46	\$15,626.42
Reproductive Health	\$560.00	\$1,295.60	\$0.00	\$1,191.89	\$103.71
Community Health Assessment	\$342.00	\$385.43	\$0.00	\$385.43	\$0.00
HHW	\$20,476.00	\$29,162.40	\$6,650.82	Ineligible	\$22,511.58
EARLY INTERVENTION	\$211,117.32	\$188,050.89	\$126,504.54	Ineligible	\$61,546.35
PRESCHOOL	\$3,009,300.00	\$2,941,953.44	\$1,079,722.10	Ineligible	\$1,862,231.34
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$6,079,615.75</b>	<b>\$5,844,835.83</b>	<b>\$2,149,700.82</b>	<b>\$987,836.34</b>	<b>\$2,707,298.67</b>

## 2023 Financial Report (For Comparison)

Program	2023 Expense Budget	2023 Actual Cost	2023 Revenue	2023 State Aid & ITPH	2023 Cost to County
PH/EH ADMIN	\$460,804.00	\$975,476.04	\$283,804.74	\$211,089.50	\$480,581.80
Chronic Disease Prevention (Includes CHSC Grant)	\$255,998.00	\$368,858.96	\$278,983.85	\$59,134.83	\$30,740.28
General Communicable Disease (Includes COVID, FLU, ELC & STG Grants)	\$781,508.00	\$271,427.85	\$144,308.00	\$125,599.37	\$1,520.48
Immunizations (Includes IAP Grant)	\$390,452.00	\$91,160.35	\$31,473.32	\$55,272.50	\$4,414.54
Rabies (Includes Rabies Grant)	\$55,413.00	\$105,653.12	\$10,412.00	\$66,954.02	\$28,287.10
STD/HIV	\$7,487.00	\$22,529.23	\$0.00	\$22,386.76	\$142.47
Outpatient TB	\$435.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emergency Preparedness (Includes BT/PHEP& FELLO Grants)	\$777,280.00	\$214,342.44	\$166,651.80	\$30,734.22	\$16,956.42
Injury Prevention and Control	\$18,220.00	\$56,252.41	\$0.00	\$55,756.49	\$495.92
Lead Poisoning Prevention (Includes Lead Grant)	\$83,291.00	\$90,233.91	\$44,148.65	\$45,454.77	\$630.49
Community Health and Food Protection Programs (Includes ATUPA Grant)	\$211,257.00	\$153,637.12	\$45,884.75	\$100,482.80	\$7,269.57
Water Supply Protection Program (Includes WEG)	\$154,615.00	\$160,250.91	\$101,934.95	\$45,325.49	\$12,990.47
Child Health (Includes CYSHCN and EI Admin Grant)	\$86,332.00	\$136,689.78	\$72,324.88	\$64,273.66	\$91.24
Maternal & Infant Health	\$44,156.00	\$63,839.91	\$0.00	\$60,112.27	\$3,727.64
Reproductive Health	\$891.00	\$1,238.48	\$0.00	\$1,154.21	\$84.27
Community Health Assessment	\$2,284.00	\$1,592.25	\$0.00	\$1,531.30	\$60.95
HHW	\$16,000.00	\$16,200.12	\$7,715.00	Ineligible	\$8,485.12
EARLY INTERVENTION	\$245,000.00	\$171,561.67	\$79,651.10	Ineligible	\$91,910.57
PRESCHOOL	\$2,300,000.00	\$2,473,880.39	\$936,427.86	Ineligible	\$1,537,452.53
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$5,891,423.00</b>	<b>\$5,374,824.94</b>	<b>\$2,203,720.90</b>	<b>\$945,262.19</b>	<b>\$2,225,841.85</b>

## 2024 Pre-School Expenditures

Provider/Vendor	Category	2024 Actual Cost
Abby Dunphy	Contractual	\$8,060.00
Christine Toner	Contractual	\$18,850.00
Clinical Assoc of the FL	Contractual	\$12,466.50
Danielle Martin	Contractual	\$7,735.00
Darcy Herron	Contractual	\$18,290.00
Finger Lakes Therapy Works PLLC	Contractual	\$2,238.00
Finger Lakes United Cerebral Palsy, Inc.	Contractual	\$1,274,857.90
Franziska Racker Centers, Inc.	Contractual	\$86,847.00
Jennifer Kelly	Contractual	\$46,397.00
Joanne Corey	Contractual	\$10,530.00
Karen Miller	Contractual	\$15,340.00
Kelly J. Schirmer	Contractual	\$2,839.00
Lauren Taylor, CCC-S	Contractual	\$27,655.00
Lisa Glasner	Contractual	\$17,537.00
Loreyn Hansen	Contractual	\$26,650.00
Lyons Central School Dist	Contractual	\$708.00
Mozaic Chapter, NYSARC, Inc.	Contractual	\$50,621.60
Phelps-Clifton Springs	Contractual	\$639.47
Pitney Bowes Purchase Power	Contractual	\$0.97
Romulus Central School	Contractual	\$7,297.00
Sarah M. Bower	Contractual	\$7,749.00
Seneca Falls Central School District	Contractual	\$23,409.72
South Seneca CSD	Contractual	\$155,370.56
Waterloo Central School	Contractual	\$69,545.00
Wayne County Chapter NYSARC Inc.	Contractual	\$362,638.18
Lacey Taylor	Transportation	\$2,219.04
Transpo Bus Services LLC	Transportation	\$685,462.50
<b>PRESCHOOL Total</b>		<b>\$2,941,953.44</b>



### Environmental Health Revenues

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Food Service Permits Hotel/Motel/Campground/MHP	9,220.00	26,179.00	29,585.00	30,865.00	33,165.00
Tanning Permits	0	580.00	580.00	2,320.00	1,720.00
Septic Plan Application Fee	4,325.00	11,975.00	10,000.00	8,750.00	10,500.00
FOIL Copies	0	0	0	0	0
Subdivision Fee	0	0	0	0	0
Plan Review Fee	1,400.00	2,200.00	2,975.00	2,225.00	1,550.00
<b>Administrative Fines</b>					
ATUPA	350.00	550.00	0	550.00	5,400.00
Water	0	200.00	0	370.00	0
Food	0	0	0	680.00	680.00
Local Law No. 7*	N/A	N/A	0	0	350.00
<b>Donations</b>					
Rabies	756.25	714.00	325.48	309.00	606.00
<b>Local Law #7 fees (Seneca County Watershed Protection Law)*</b>					
Business permits (to install or repair septic systems)			2,500.00	3,000.00	2,800.00
Septic System Inspector class fees			4,575.00	2,550.00	0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	18,051.25	46,598.00	52,340.48	52,169.00	56,091.00

*\*Local Law No. 7 was established in 2021 and went into effect April 2022*

## **Governance /Seneca County Board of Health**

The Seneca County Board of Health serves as the governing authority for the Health Department. Departmental activities and programs are monitored, and reports are provided to the Board of Health monthly. Members of the Board of Health are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. As stipulated in Public Health Law, board membership consists of at least three physicians who reside in Seneca County, three community members, and one representative from the Board of Supervisors.

### **2024 Board of Health Members**

Tiffany Folk, Community Member  
Grace Freier, MD, Board Vice Chair  
Dale Freier, MD, Community Member  
Robert Hayssen, Supervisor, (T) Varick  
Joseph Lorenzetti, MD  
Lynn Porter, Community Member  
Timothy Ryan, MD, Board Chair

### **2024 Board of Supervisors Health & Human Services Committee**

Robert Hayssen, Supervisor – Varick, Chair  
Mike Reynolds, Supervisor – Covert, Vice-Chair  
Joseph Borst, Supervisor – Ovid  
Lucas Latini, Supervisor – Lodi  
Paul Kronenwetter, Supervisor – Seneca Falls

### **2024 Health Advisory Committee**

Members of the Health Advisory Committee have been appointed by the Director of Public Health. The purpose of this committee is to provide quality improvement oversight of the health department and to assist the Board of Health with program guidance and recommendations. The Health Advisory Committee meets quarterly to review the following quality improvement activities:

- Policies and Procedures
- Complaints
- Incidents
- Grant quarterly/annual reports
- The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
- Quality improvement activities including patient/client satisfaction surveys, program record audits, provider quality improvement outreach and agency specific quality improvement activities.

## 2024 Health Advisory Committee Members

W. Averell H. Bauder

Ines Lisboal

Olivia Catalano

Laura Tuttle

Natalia Nelson

Kimberly Ilacqua

Amanda Faiola

Timothy Ryan, MD

Timothy Whiting

Lauren LeGreca

Danielle Nicholson

Kendra Walling

Sarah Montaglione

Brittany Fisco

Jeanmarie Burke, MD

John Quattrociocchi

Elizabeth Borst

Theresa Lahr

Mary Sawall, RN

Scott King

Kimberly Abate

AJ VanCuren

Kristina Knight

Chersti Kuhlmann

Margaret Morse