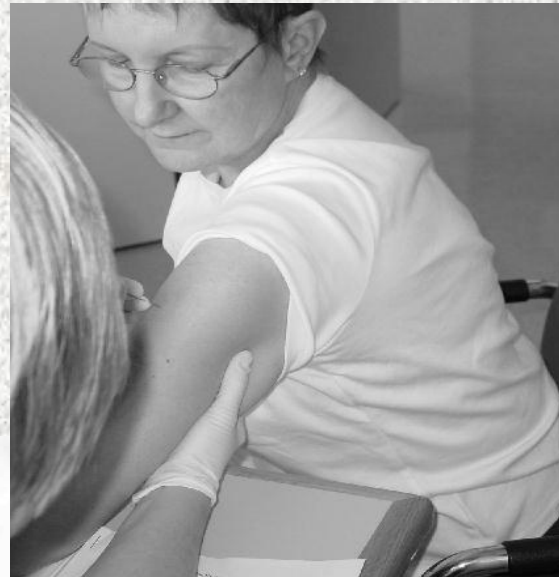


2003 Annual Report



Dickinson-Iron District Health Department



*Serving the Community in Environmental Health,
Personal Health Services & Chronic Disease Prevention*

Dear Residents and Community Partners:

On behalf of the Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health, the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department is pleased to provide you with our 2003 Annual Report. The purpose of the report is to provide you with a summary of the department's programs, personnel, finances and accomplishments for 2003. Some of the more significant events and accomplishments of 2003 are discussed below.

The mission of the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department is to assure the highest possible level of health for the people of the communities we serve. The Department embraces a **Partnerships in Prevention** philosophy, and we continue to work collaboratively with leaders throughout the various sectors of the community to ensure that "public health is what we, as a society, can do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy".

In Fall 2002, I was welcomed to the community as your new Health Department Director and Health Officer for Dickinson and Iron Counties and consider it a privilege to serve you in that capacity. In June of 2003, Mr. Stephen Markham joined the Department as our Administrator. While new changes in leadership have taken place, as a community we also recognize the substantial commitment made by those who precede us. The significant contributions and accomplishments of our recently retired Health Officer/Administrator, Ms. Barbara Serena, were recognized in 2003 with a plaque in each office recognizing her 26 years of tireless dedication, exceptional leadership, and outstanding commitment to the health of our communities. Thank you, Barbara!

Department leadership and staff worked diligently in 2003 to develop and implement the use of annual work plans for the agency. The goals and objectives of the plan incorporate planned improvements in current programs and services, seek to rebuild our health assessment and improvement capacity affected by recent budget cuts, accomplish capital improvement projects at the Iron County office, achieve re-accreditation, and increase the visibility of programs and services in the community.

In addition to the thousands of services delivered to residents of both counties, the Health Department engaged in many community outreach and partnership projects during 2003. We continued to provide home visiting services through the Parents Involved in Education program, participated in numerous health, housing and senior citizen fairs, attained the highest immunization level (71%) in 19-35 month old children in the UP, organized various tobacco control and prevention initiatives, assured influenza vaccine availability for our youngest residents, and worked to assure the availability of health services for citizens who may not otherwise be able to obtain them.

The report does not show the caring and dedication that the staff imparts to residents in the provision of services. I am very proud to be a part of this organization and express my deep appreciation to the staff for their enormous efforts in the face of continually changing resource levels. We also thank the Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health for their support as we continue our efforts to provide maximum access to the highest quality health and environmental services in the most cost effective manner possible. I encourage your review of the following report and invite your comments or suggestions regarding our performance and ways that we can serve you better. Please bring them to the attention of the Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health or the Health Officer at (906) 779-7206.

Yours for Healthy Dickinson and Iron Counties,

Richard J. Thoune, RS, MPH
Director/Health Officer



(Richard Thoune, Director/Health Officer)

Our Mission: "To assure the highest possible level of health for the people of the communities we serve."

Health Department Administration

Richard J. Thoune, RS, MS,
MPH
Director/Health Officer

Randall Johnson, MD, MPH
Medical Director

Stephen Markham, BA
Administrator

Linda Piper, RNC, MPH
Community Health Services
Administrator

Ron Matonich, RS, BS
Environmental Health
Director

Address:

601 Washington Ave.
Iron River, MI 49935
and
818 Pyle Drive
Kingsford, MI 49802

Phone:

(906) 265-9913
(906) 774-1868

Fax:

(906) 265-2950
(906) 774-9910

E-mail: rumpf@hline.org

We're on the web!
www.didhd.org

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Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health

Frank Smith, Chair
Lawrence Harrington, Vice Chair
Rosalie King
Henry Wender
C. Thomas Clark
Patti Peretto

Environmental Health Division

Food Protection

- 215 licensed food service establishments which include all fixed, mobile, school, special transitory unit, and vending machine locations.
- 38 temporary food service licenses were issued, each preceded by a site inspection.
- 7 plan reviews were conducted for new/remodeled food service establishments.
- 3 complaints were received and investigated as to their validity. Some of these complaints pertained to suspect food borne illnesses.
- 388 food service inspections (including follow-ups) were conducted by staff of the Environmental Health Division.

The focus of the food program is to assure a safe, clean food product for the public through regular inspections and education. Efforts in this program are key elements in assuring the meals we consume outside of the home are safe.

One of the most important methods of preventing the spread of disease and viral infection is the proper treatment of human wastewater. These programs provide guidance and oversight for on-site sewage disposal.

On-Site Sewage Disposal Management

- 383 construction permits were issued for residential and nonresidential facilities.
- 383 site evaluations were conducted prior to the issuance of the permits.
- 402 inspections were performed either during or after completion of the system.
- 32 operation and maintenance evaluations were conducted.
- 15 complaints were received and investigated.

Private & Non-Community Water

- 153 private water supply permits were issued.
- 2 Type II non community water supply permits were issued.
- 155 site reviews were conducted.
- 25 final inspections were completed and system approvals granted.
- 32 wells were sampled as part of a contaminated site groundwater monitoring program.

A fundamental objective of public health met by these programs is the protection of our lakes, streams and the water we drink.

Community Health and Safety

Assuring a good quality of life where we live and play is a key component of these programs.

- 13 annual inspections of public swimming pools and/or spas.
- 15 annual campground inspections.
- 6 annual mobile home park inspections.
- 51 animal bites were reported and investigated.
- 7 potential rabies specimens were processed and submitted to the state laboratory for testing.

Other environmental health activities included the following: Mortgage Evaluations (private water and sewage), Subdivision Plan Reviews, Septage Disposal Site Evaluations, Foster Care Evaluations, Tattoo Parlor Inspection and Licensing, Nuisance Complaints, selling of radon kits, interpreting their results and assisting clients with potential correction measures.

Emergency Preparedness

In 2003, the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department received funding from the Centers for Disease Control to enhance preparedness for response to public health emergencies, including bioterrorism.

With the funding, the following preparedness activities were completed in 2003:

- ◆ Development of an internal emergency response plan
- ◆ Participation in the smallpox pre-event planning initiative
- ◆ Orientation of health department staff to emergency preparedness and response
- ◆ Participation in the Health Alert Network roll-out. The Health Alert Network is a secure internet portal to distribute public health emergency notifications between the State of Michigan, hospitals, law enforcement, and other local response agencies.
- ◆ Collaboration of emergency response planning activities with hospitals, emergency management, law enforcement, and other local emergency response personnel.

Community Outreach

LOCAL:

The Health Department provides services to parents and children ages birth through 5 through collaboration with the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District's Parent Involvement and Education, P.I.E., Program. 148 families have been served through home visits for parent education to support infant care, health, growth, and development. With P.I.E. program support, the Health Department offices in Iron River and Kingsford have a Parenting Library with resources available to parents in the community.

The Health Department participates in the local community health fairs, Day of the Young Child Fair, Housing Fair, Senior Citizen Fairs, and Parenting Fair through displays, informational pamphlets, and marketing incentives.

During the influenza season, in addition to immunizing senior citizens and others at public influenza immunization clinics, the Health Department offers businesses and agencies the opportunity to schedule an On-Site Flu Vaccination Clinic for their staff. These clinics are staffed by Health Department nurses. We assure that necessary emergency medical response is in place; provide educational material to staff; obtaining written consent; and collect an immunization fee from each person served. In 2003, the Health Department conducted 55 On-Site Flu Vaccination Clinics.



A Free Otology Clinic was held at the Dickinson Health Care Professional Building. Forty three children were seen by Dr. Ray Cameron, an ENT specialist. Dr. Cameron recommended medical treatment for 32 of those seen. The Otology Clinic is held annually as a service to children who fail to pass the preliminary hearing screening as well as the threshold screening four weeks later.

The Health Department has been a significant participant in efforts to expand access to health care for the uninsured in Dickinson County through a voluntary donated medical services model. An Ad Hoc Committee of the Dickinson County Collaborative Board provided key membership and staffing support to enable formation of the Dickinson County Medical Care Access Coalition. The Dickinson County Health Officer helped to facilitate the early meetings of the committee, has participated with coalition members in conferences and other key meetings to move the coalition forward, and remains a member of the Coalition's Board of Directors and its Executive Committee. Non-profit organization status has been applied for, officers have been identified and elected, the membership has been expanded to include additional key stakeholders in the county, and specific committees have been formed to accomplish the work that needs to be done. A final brochure has been developed for distribution, and publicity efforts are underway. MCAC hopes to serve 50 people in its first year of operation.

Tobacco Blues Program is a home study program offered by the Health Department through Probate Court. Minors caught in possession of or using tobacco products are referred into the program. During 2003, twelve students completed the program.

A Tobacco Vendor Education Program was conducted by the Health Department to educate area tobacco retailers on selling tobacco products to young people, e.g. asking purchaser's age and checking I.D.'s. This helps reduce sales to minors. Approximately 50 visits were made in 2003. In addition, tobacco retailers are randomly selected and checked for compliance each year.

Layout & design: Kelly Rumpf

Results from a local Smoke-Free Workplace and Business Survey indicated that most places of businesses support a smoke-free environment. Four hundred fifty-five surveys were distributed to area businesses in both counties with a return rate of 29%, which is actually very good. Eighty-two percent have a policy regulating smoking, 58% have a 100% smoke-free establishment and 27% allow smoking in designated areas only. In addition, 74% perceive support for a smoke-free policy for their establishment. This is very encouraging information as we continue to move forward with clean indoor air issues and a smoke-free environment!

The Health Department received two mini-grants from the Dickinson Area Community Foundation and the Community Foundation of the Upper Peninsula. These foundations received some dollars through the Tobacco Settlement Agreement. These mini-grants were used to educate area youth on the dangers of using tobacco products and breathing in secondhand smoke. ACE High School, Kingsford High School and Iron Mountain Central students conducted anti-tobacco/secondhand smoke media campaigns within their communities.

REGIONAL:

The Wellness Council of the Upper Peninsula (WELCUP) is a nonprofit organization that promotes wellness in the workplace and physical activity within the communities in which we live. The executive board is made up of 9 board members who represent different areas of the U.P. Some of the successful programs include the "Get Moving U.P." program in which over 2,000 individuals participated in logging over 1 million minutes of exercise; the Walk Michigan Program in which local winners had the opportunity to walk with the Governor during the annual Mackinac Island bridge walk; the Eat Five Program in which participants were encouraged to eat 5 servings of fruits/veggies during American Heart Month; and National Employee Health and Fitness Day events. New in 2004 will be the STEP UP Program, a walking program where participants will use a pedometer to track the number of steps they take each day, striving toward 10,000 steps/day.

STATE:

To promote the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Screening program, the Health Department partnered with the local Wal-Mart store to offer \$200 in gift certificates to women that have had a mammogram and enter the drawing. A promotional display is set up at Wal-Mart and the Health Department, along with news releases.

The Project Fresh program is administered jointly by Michigan State Extension and the Women, Infant, & Children (WIC) program to provide coupons for locally grown produce to enrolled clients. Coupons are provided in addition to the WIC prescribed food package and may be used throughout the season. Approximately \$20 in coupons per family were made available to 495 WIC clients for use at the local Farmer's Markets.

The Dickinson-Iron District Health Department participates in the Michigan Childhood Immunization Registry (MCIR) which allows for the creation of assessment level reports reflecting the population-based immunization levels of children. The numbers in these reports reflect data for the 19-36 month-old population as up to date for the following doses of vaccines: 4 DTaP, 3 polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep B and 1 Varicella. The Dickinson-Iron County assessment level for children in this age group showed that 71% were up to date for the above immunizations. This is the highest rate in the UP and compares to 59% for all U.P. children and 47% for the state as a whole.

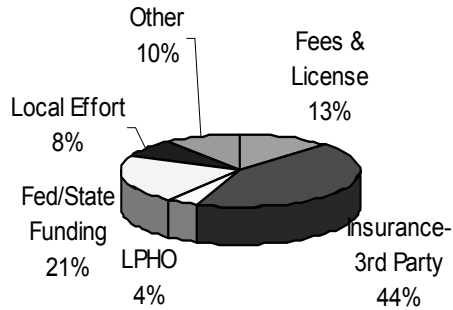
Community Health Services Division

Public Health

TB Tests	416	Hearing Preschool	
		• Hearing screenings	383
Reportable Diseases		• Medical referrals	9
• Chronic Hepatitis C	34	Vision School Age	
• Hepatitis C	2	• Acuity/muscle screenings	3,711
• Blastomycosis	2	• Medical referrals	18
• Campylobacter	8	Vision Preschool	
• Salmonella	4	• Vision screenings	343
• Giardia	3	• Medical referrals	18
• (Bacteria) Strep Meningitis	1	Tobacco Prevention	
• Viral Meningitis	1	• Vendor/retailer visits	50
• Hepatitis A	1	• Probate Court referrals	12
• Cryptosporidiosis	2	Women, Infants & Children (WIC)	
• Malaria	1	• Clients enrolled	1,257
• Influenza	19	• Client visits with CPA	2,372
Rabies Prophylaxis Administered	2	• Coupon pick-up and self-directed nutrition education visits	1,428
Immunizations		• Nutrition education classes	62
• Clients	3,248	• Clients attending nutrition education classes	583
• Doses	7,081	• Client visits with Registered Dietician	154
• Records Assessed for School Children	1,243	Maternal Support Service	
• Records Assessed for Preschool Children	487	• Families served	173
Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Control		• Professional home & office visits	938
• Clients received HIV/AIDS testing and counseling	88	Children's Special Health Care Services	
• STD testing/education	50	• Children enrolled	148
• STD's reported from community for follow-up	37	Infant Support Services	
Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program		• Families served	217
• Clients enrolled	262	• Professional home visits	1,326
• Mammograms	188	Early On	
• Cervical abnormalities referred	23	• Families served	42
• Breast abnormalities referred	22	• Professional home & office visits	258
Senior Screening		Impetus	
• Clients enrolled	208	• Families served	155
• Medical referrals	23	• Professional home & office visits	1,026
Family Planning		P.I.E.	
• Clients enrolled	930	• Families served	148
• Services provided	1,711	• Professional home & office visits	655
Hearing School Age			
• Hearing screenings	2,117		
• Audiograms	280		
• Medical referrals	76		



2003 Revenue By Source



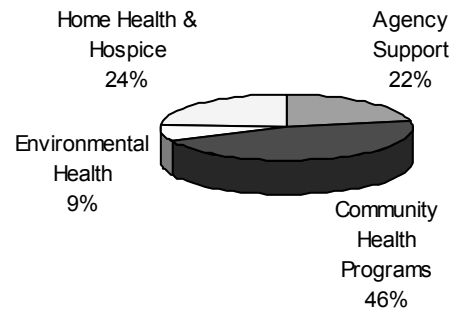
2003 Revenues by Source:

Fees & License	\$368,045
Insurance-3rd Party	\$1,249,547
LPHO	\$129,418
Fed/State Funding	\$618,142
Other	<u>\$297,646</u>
Total	\$2,900,698

2003 Expenses by Division:

Agency Support	\$639,192
Community Health Program	\$1,329,786
Environmental Health	\$254,070
Home Health & Hospice	<u>\$677,650</u>
Total	\$2,900,698

2003 Expenses By Division



Home Health Services

Home Care

The DIDHD Home Health Agency is Medicare and Medicaid certified and offers skilled nursing services, physical, occupational, speech and language therapies, and certified home health aides which provide care in the client's own home. Care is offered in Dickinson and Iron Counties in Michigan and to Florence, Northern Forest and Northern Marinette Counties in Wisconsin. These services are paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Administration, commercial or private insurance, workman's compensation, or private individuals.

Skilled home health services assist clients in their recovery from an illness or injury, may shorten or prevent hospitalization, and may prevent long term nursing home care. All services are provided under the orders of the client's physician (s).

Nursing service includes, but is not limited to, teaching of new medications and treatments and assessing their effects, providing surgical dressing changes and other wound care, diabetic and other disease process teaching, IV management, blood draws for laboratory tests, Vitamin B-12 injections, and the list goes on. Therapy services work to improve strength, mobility, ability to manage activities of daily living, speech and cognitive functions. Home health aides provide personal services such as bathing, hair and skin care, and so on.

The advantages of home care are numerous. Home care improves quality of life by enabling individuals to stay in the comfort and security of their own homes during times of illness, disability, and recuperation. Home care maintains a patient's dignity and independence. Home care is less expensive than other forms of health care delivery. Home care offers specialized services tailored to meet patient needs on a personal provider-to-

patient basis. Home care reinforces and supplements family and friends' care through training and education.

The Health Department has provided nursing care to our communities since 1936. In 1965, following the Medicare legislation providing for home health coverage for the elderly, the agency became Medicare certified. With nearly seventy years of agency experience in community health nursing, nearly forty years of Home Health Nursing background, and an extremely stable and experienced nursing and therapy staff, the Dickinson-Iron District Health Department Home Health Agency is well equipped to care for the health needs of our communities.

Hospice

The DIDHD Hospice Agency is Medicare and Medicaid certified and has been providing hospice care since 1966 to residents of Dickinson and Iron Counties. The hospice team members are skilled in managing pain, providing emotional and spiritual support and generally assisting with the end-of-life issues that face patients and their families. Team members consist of the patient's nurse, therapist and/or home health aide as well as the hospice medical director, the spiritual support person, the social worker and the nursing supervisor. Dying is regarded as a normal process, and quality rather than length of life is emphasized by all disciplines. The entire family is considered in the care, and nurses are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Family care is continued in the form of bereavement support for thirteen months. The Health Department philosophy is to help you live as fully as possible for as long as possible. While hospice does not attempt to add days to one's life, *it can add life to one's days.*