

# Grand Traverse County Health Department Annual Report

*Creating  
a  
Healthy  
Community*



## Divisions

Administration & Finance

Community Health

Environmental Health & Animal Control

Emergency Management & Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Medical Examiner

## Grand Traverse County Health Department (GTCHD) Service Locations

\*\*Service hours are: M-F 8:00am-4:30pm (closed for lunch 12pm-1pm), unless otherwise noted.

### **Administration & Finance**

#### **Community Health**

#### **Emergency Management & Public Health Preparedness**

#### **Medical Examiner** - Benzie, Grand Traverse & Leelanau Counties

2600 LaFranier Road, Ste. A

Traverse City, MI 49686

231-995-6100

\*\*Late Community Health clinics -  
1st & 3rd Wednesdays until 6:30pm

### **Environmental Health**

2650 LaFranier Road

Traverse City, MI 49686

231-995-6051

### **Animal Control**

2650 LaFranier Road,

Traverse City, MI 49686

231-995-6080

\*\*Services hours - 8:30am-5:00pm

### **K-Town Youth Care**

112 South Brownson Ave

P.O. Box 117

Kingsley, MI 49649

231-263-5895

### **Youth Health and Wellness Center**

880 Parsons Road

Traverse City, MI 49686

231-922-6416

### **GTCHD Mission Statement:**

We, the Grand Traverse County Health Department, are committed to providing professional, preventive health services.

We are entrusted to provide a compassionate and efficient approach to a progressive, comprehensive, holistic health goal accessible to individuals, families and the community. Through careful planning we mitigate the impact of diseases and disasters.

### **GTCHD Vision Statement:**

We, the Grand Traverse County Health Department, envision a safe and healthy community in which to live, where health refers to "a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (World Health Organization). We remain dedicated to the promotion of this vision and all of its contributing elements.

### **Board of Health:**

Carol Crawford, Ronald Clous, Dr. Bob Johnson, Alisa Kroupa, Dr. Dan Lathrop, Christine Maxbauer, and Addison "Sonny" Wheelock.

### **Health Officer:**

Wendy S. Trute, MPH, CPHA

## A Message from the Health Officer:

*I present the 2015 Grand Traverse County Health Department's (GTCHD) annual report. It was a remarkable year. GTCHD was recognized as the public health and population health leader in our community by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services by earning a perfect accreditation review with numerous commendations and receiving the Director's award. This recognition solidifies the dedication of the health department staff, Board of Commissioners and collaborative efforts with numerous community partners, in the ongoing commitment to providing quality services to all residents of Grand Traverse County and Northern Michigan.*

*We also faced many challenges this year, with the immunization waiver law changes, an increased need for youth mental health services, leading a large scale storm response, and another vaccine preventable disease outbreak (Chicken Pox). Due to the diligent efforts and tireless commitment of the GTCHD staff, we were able to successfully meet the challenges.*

*GTCHD strives to be innovative and provide professional and consistently high quality public health programs to our community. We pursue this mission through many ways and this report highlights the activities and accomplishments of all five divisions in 2015. From earning multiple awards and recognitions, to leading and establishing new community partnerships, 2015 was a year that truly demonstrates the quality of our public health programs and extraordinary staff!*



Wendy S. Trute, MPH, CPHA  
Health Officer

## 2015 GTCHD Highlights

**Grand Traverse County Health Department-** GTCHD received a perfect accreditation evaluation! All 147 indicators were met with numerous Special Recognitions. Reviewers had many great things to say about the entire staff, how efficient the programs are run and how we capture the essence of health department operations- *efficient, innovative, proactive and empowering staff, to do their jobs to the best of their abilities.* The accreditation review confirmed what public health does day in and day out in is high quality work by very dedicated staff.

**Regional Vaccine Preventable Disease Task Force-** A regional immunization task force was formed after the outbreaks in the fall of 2014. The group is focused on education, advocacy and outreach in order to improve community immunization rates and reduce the risk for vaccine preventable diseases in our region. The group hosted a legislative roundtable discussion with local legislators regarding immunization waiver rates and strategies to better protect the entire community from vaccine preventable diseases.

**Academic Health Department-** Grand Traverse County Health Department became an academic health department through the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. This partnership will enhance our public health reach into the medical community. Health Department staff will give lectures to local medical students/residents on various aspects of public health, participate in joint research projects, and provide an elective public health rotation for third and forth year residents placed at Munson Medical Center. This will expose physicians to the various programs in public health (environmental health, immunizations, communicable diseases, maternal and child health programs, adolescent clinics, medical examiner, emergency preparedness etc.), so they have a better appreciation and understanding for the preventative and population based approach of public health.

**2015 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director's Award Recipient**- This award was presented to the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance, which includes Grand Traverse County Health Department for; 1) contributing to a positive outcome in the health status of our communities, 2) demonstrating a spirit of resource sharing and integration, 3) using best available evidence in making informed public health decisions to ensure effectiveness of programs and interventions, 4) being sustainable and replicable in other communities, and 5) demonstrating a new and innovative public health initiative.

**Medical Examiner Scene Investigator Training**- Medical Examiner scene investigators from the Tri County Medical Examiners officer were trained by the Chief Investigator for Western Michigan School of Medicine Medical Examiner's office on Michigan laws, Gift of Life donations, scene investigations, photography, body handling, chain of custody, infant deaths, vulnerable adult deaths, report writing and mass fatalities, and investigators also participated in hands-on mock scene investigations.

**Emergency Coordinator of the Year** - Severe Thunderstorms with 80-100mph straight line winds caused extensive damage to the County on August 2nd, 2015. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated for storm response, debris management, and cleanup. Private and public property damages were estimated at \$15 million, and a total of nine counties were affected. This storm resulted in a local state of emergency and a State of Michigan Governor's Declaration of Disaster. Gregg Bird, Emergency Management Coordinator, was named the 2015 Michigan Emergency Management Association's Emergency Coordinator of The Year, for jurisdictions over 60,000 population, for his outstanding leadership following the storm.

**Public Health Emergency Preparedness**- The National Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia designated Michael Lahey, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, to be the speaker regarding the advanced development of Points of Dispensing (POD) GoKits - an effort completed very successfully at the GTCHD in 2014. In addition, the Northern Michigan Public Health Emergency Preparedness Regional Team Intergovernmental Agreement was completed. The final planning and coordination of the Northern Michigan Public Health Emergency Preparedness (NMPHEP) was conducted and the collaboration was implemented for official launch on December 1, 2015.

**Healthy Futures Commendation**- Staff were commended by Munson for their diligence in enrolling all new moms in this program and achieving high immunization and breast feeding rates. The program hit a record high number of contacts in the fall of 2015 demonstrating the importance of this program for new parents of all income levels.

**Immunization Waiver Changes**- Staff established a process consistent with new law requiring education sessions at a Local Health Department (LHD) for those requesting a non medical waiver; including individual appointments and hosting four group waiver classes coordinated with TCAPS. As a result, immunization appointments increased by 50% compared to 2014 and waivers decreased district wide.

**WIC Evaluation Results**- Through the ongoing education efforts of all maternal child health clinicians (WIC, MIHP, Healthy Futures, and others), in order to reduce the number of smoking Mothers, the rate of pregnant women smoking rate decreased from 26.2% in 2014 to 23.8% in 2015. In addition, the smoking rate in postpartum women decreased from 23.2% in 2014 to 12.5% in 2015.

**Vaccine Preventable Diseases Back Again**- GTCHD received an award in 2015 from the State for our successful efforts at managing two significant simultaneous outbreaks in 2014 and, at the same time, conducting Ebola travel monitoring. 2015 also saw an outbreak of the chicken pox and a number of school program exclusions resulting from the new immunization waiver laws.

**Municipal and Private Water Line Freeze Ups** - As a result of prolonged cold weather and lack of substantial snow cover over the winter, the Environmental Health staff were required to work closely with City officials throughout the month of March to monitor increased water flows into the Traverse City Regional Sewage Treatment facility for areas prone to previous water line freeze ups.

**Bat Exposures Down in 2015** - Animal Control data showed that bat exposures for 2015 were down almost 50% with 16 reported exposure cases, as compared to 30 for 2014. The reduction may be attributed to our Environmental Health staff working with Interlochen Arts Academy to "bat-proof" many of their old cabins. Previously, bat exposures were more common because of construction deficiencies in the cabins allowing for easy access by bats.

# COMMUNITY HEALTH

The Community Health Division of the GTCHD provides an array of services to protect the health of Grand Traverse County residents. These services include immunizations, communicable disease monitoring and prevention, reproductive health services, pregnancy support, infant and children services, as well as health education and referrals.

Many of the Community Health programs specifically promote the health and well being of pregnant women, newborns, mothers, infants, and children. One such program, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), ensures essential nutrition assistance is received by both pregnant women and infants in need. In addition, WIC provides peer counselors to help support mothers efforts with breastfeeding. The Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) provides assessment and support for families through nurses, social workers, and/or registered dieticians. Another program, Healthy Futures, a partnership program with Munson Health-care, provides on-going support and information to mothers-to-be, newborns, and children up to age two. Furthermore, Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) program, within the Michigan Department of Community Health, offers assistance for children and young adults with special health care needs. Additionally, we have two youth clinics for ages 10-21; K-Town Youth Care, located in Kingsley on Brownson Avenue and the Youth Health and Wellness Center, located at the TBAISD Career-Tech Center on Parsons Road in Traverse City.

	Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Average Caseload	Maternal Infant Health Program Number of Visits	Children's Special Health Care Services Average of Active Children	Healthy Future Participants Average Caseload	Adolescent Health Total Client Visits
2015	2,205	3,358	283	793	1,614 (YHWC) 1,272 (K-Town )
2014	2,445	3,459	293	948	1,268 (YHWC) 1,151 (K-Town )
2013	2,383	3,201	298	976	1,362 (YHWC) 1,087 (K-Town )

\* YHWC ~ Youth Health & Wellness Center, K-Town ~ K-Town Youth Care

Other services the Community Health Division makes available to the community include; vision and hearing screenings, dental care (Dental Clinics North), and age appropriate immunizations, including seasonal flu shots.

Reproductive Health is yet another Community Health Division program. This program's services provide confidential testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections for men and women, birth control information, referrals to OB-GYN offices, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and HIV counseling.

	Vision Screenings Total Provided	Hearing Screenings Total Provided	Immunizations Number of Vaccines Administered	Reproductive Health Number of Client Visits	Dental Clinics North* Number of Clients Served
2015	6,874	4,701	5,304	1,571	6,378
2014	6,041	5,553	4,359	1,805	6,544
2013	6,450	4,641	5,108	2,469	6,094

\*Contracted through Northwest Michigan Community Health Agency.

Communicable Disease Surveillance and Control is the final core program within the Community Health Division. Through this area of focus, Public Health Nurses investigate communicable disease outbreaks in the community by collecting disease data and conducting ongoing disease surveillance. Reported cases of communicable disease for the past three years are seen on the chart below:

### Reportable Communicable Diseases

Disease	2013	2014	2015
TB	0	0	0
Chlamydia	249	288	276
Gonorrhea	9	7	10
Campylobacter	10	8	12
STEC (Shigatoxin Producin EColi)	0	2	2
Salmonella	12	9	16
Shigella	0	0	2
Giardia	8	4	7
Hepatitis A	1	0	0
Hepatitis B, Acute	1	0	1
Hepatitis B, Chronic	1	4	2
Hepatitis C, Acute	3	1	1
Hepatitis C, Chronic	72	94	65
Listeria	0	0	0
Pertussis	2	90 <sup>1</sup>	2
Bacterial Meningitis	1	1	2
Aseptic Meningitis	5	10	9
Neisseria Meningitis	0	2	0
Invasive Gr A Strep	0	5	4
HIV	3	38 <sup>2</sup>	6
Syphilis	3	2	0
Legionella	0	0	2
Chicken Pox	20	9	53 <sup>1</sup>
Kawasaki	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0
Animal Bites	190	181	218
Other Reportable Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Cryptosporidiosis</li> <li>• 1 Coccidioidomycosis</li> <li>• 1 Guillain Barre</li> <li>• 1 Histoplasmosis</li> <li>• 1 Dengue Fever</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Cryptosporidiosis</li> <li>• 2 Coccidioidomycosis</li> <li>• 2 Guillain Barre</li> <li>• 1 Histoplasmosis</li> <li>• 2 H. Influenza</li> <li>• 2 Measles</li> <li>• 11 Strep Pneumonia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Cryptosporidiosis</li> <li>• 2 Histoplasmosis</li> <li>• 2 H. Influenza</li> <li>• 1 Mumps</li> <li>• 5 Strep Pneumonia</li> </ul>
		<sup>1</sup> Outbreak	<sup>1</sup> Outbreak
		<sup>2</sup> Change in HIV reporting	

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## Emergency Management

Because it is never known when a disaster may strike, our professional team has developed an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and stands ready to initiate and direct the plan in the event of a full-scale emergency. In addition to the EOP, regular surveillance, testing, practice drills, and review of emergency policies and procedures is an on-going responsibility of this Division. The Grand Traverse County Emergency Management Division works closely with Emergency Management Coordinators of the Region 7 Homeland Security Planning Board, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the 9-1-1 Central Board, the Local Planning Team, all Grand Traverse Planning Committees, the 9-1-1 Central Board, the Local Planning Team, all Grand Traverse County Public Safety agencies, as well as other Emergency Preparedness committees and community partners to ensure a coordinated, effective response to any regional emergency or disaster event.

## 2015 Planning, Training, Exercises and Events

- The county Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed and approved by Michigan State Police Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division and FEMA. Grand Traverse County, as well as, the city of Traverse City, Charter Township of Garfield, and Charter Township of East Bay had their mandated Emergency Operations Plans approved and declared the only jurisdiction in the State of Michigan to have 100% compliance with the new FEMA requirements for these types of plans(as of July 2015). Additional planning activities were conducted for the Bayshore Marathon, Traverse City Film Festival, the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival, Traverse City Triathlon, and the Northwestern Michigan Fair.
- Awarded and hosted one of only ten FEMA funded and sponsored Local Integrated Emergency Management Courses. FEMA staff and national subject matter experts designed a Grand Traverse County/ Traverse City specific training exercise that allowed local public safety agencies to train on Incident Management Teams and Emergency Operations Center teams. Other training topics included: critical infrastructure protection, active shooter, hazardous materials, public information officer, damage assessment, and domestic terrorism.
- Participated in Grand Traverse Mall Active Shooter table top and functional exercises.
- The Emergency Manager deployed the mobile command post in support of multi-public safety agency Unified Command Center operations for the Bayshore Marathon and National Cherry Festival.
- During the late afternoon hours of August 2, 2015, the Grand Traverse region was struck by a severe thunderstorm that produced straight-line winds in excess of 100 mph. Grand Traverse County sustained severe damage from falling trees and widespread power outages. While there were no fatalities, numerous injuries, some serious, were reported. The County Emergency Operations Center was opened and remained operational for 33 days. A local Declaration of Emergency was declared by County Commission Chair Christine Maxbauer and remained in effect for nearly two weeks while debris was cleaned up and power restored. The Governor of Michigan also issued a Disaster Declaration for the County and numerous state assets and funding were dispatched to the region. The damages to Grand Traverse County were assessed at an estimated total of \$15.4 million dollars. (\$12.2 million to private property & \$3.1 million to public property). Recovery efforts were bolstered by the State of Michigan Section 19 Disaster Assistance Grant Fund that provided a maximum award of \$100,000 to Grand Traverse County and the City of Traverse City and \$53.851.77 to Acme Township. These funds required current Emergency Operations Plans in effect and utilized during the disaster, as well as, accurate FEMA directed Damage Assessment conducted within 72 hrs of the Declaration of Emergency. Without the aggressive training commitments and Planning Team, as well as, the coordinated and consolidated effort of all public safety agencies and elected officials, we would not have been awarded the State Disaster Relief funds.
- Gregg Bird was named the 2015 Michigan Emergency Management Association's Emergency Coordinator of the Year, for jurisdictions over 60,000 population, for his outstanding leadership and service following the August 2, 2015 storm.

## Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Being prepared saves lives. Public Health emergencies might take the shape of an emerging or rapidly spreading disease, health conditions from a natural disaster, or an act of bioterrorism. While the nature, timing, and location of the next threat cannot be anticipated, developing programs to prevent, detect, and respond to public health emergencies can mitigate the impact of the unknown. The Grand Traverse County Health Department Public Health Preparedness Division works closely with local and regional emergency planners and first responders to ensure that a coordinated, operational, and effective response to a variety of public health emergencies exists.

### 2015 Planning, Training, Exercises and Events

- Early in the year, Grand Traverse County Health Department Emergency Preparedness began talking with regional counterparts on how to more efficiently coordinate, plan, and operate Public Health Emergency Preparedness throughout the region. Following initial planning considerations, Mike Lahey, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, with guidance and oversight of Health Officer Wendy Trute, completed and submitted a proposal to regional counterparts and the state on a collaborative approach to Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) between three local health departments.
- The regional collaboration of Northern Michigan Public Health Emergency Preparedness was presented to the State of Michigan and local county Boards of Health and Commissions during multiple strategic planning meetings and received full support from state, regional, and local administrators and partners. To support the program, the Health Innovations Grant through the State of Michigan was identified as an additional source of funding for this collaborative approach and has been completed and submitted to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to assist in the potential implementation of the regional preparedness collaborative program.
- The Grand Traverse County Health Department Office of Emergency Preparedness conducted an informational presentation over the collaboration of Northern Michigan Public Health Emergency Preparedness and its creative process and benefits to the counties public health preparedness to the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners on October 14th. A draft Interlocal Agreement was developed between GTCHD and legal counsel. The draft agreement was reviewed in November by all three boards and was projected to be effective December 1st.
- In late November, the Northern Michigan Public Health Emergency Preparedness Regional Team (NMPHEP) Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) was finalized and presented to the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners for final approval. Approval was received at this time. Final planning and coordination of NMPHEP was conducted and the collaboration was implemented for official launch as of December 1st, 2015 which began with a NMPHEP Capability Assessment of all Public Health Emergency Preparedness operations at the local level of the local health department as we progress into 2016.
- Grand Traverse County Emergency Preparedness successfully hosted a Mass Antibiotic Dispensing course presented by the Centers for Diseases Control September 14th-15th. Public health staff from across the region and state was present in the course, as it was the first time this course was brought to Northern Michigan. Following this course, the Grand Traverse County Emergency Preparedness was invited to Lansing Michigan from September 16th-18th to take part in the first Train the Trainer course for the Mass Antibiotic Dispensing course that was held in Traverse City. Grand Traverse County Emergency Preparedness is now approved to teach these courses to the County and region through the Centers for Disease Control.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness staff attended an Emerging Infectious Disease exercise in Grand Rapids where multiple disciplines were able to determine their roles and responsibilities during a large scale emerging infectious disease situation.
- The Office of Emergency Preparedness made significant adjustments and updates to the Medical Counter Measures Plan for Grand Traverse County. Redundant transportation and communication capabilities were assessed and improved within the plan. The updated plan was submitted to the state as required for review.
- Final planning and coordination meetings to the NMPHEP Regional Team were conducted to ready the launch of phase one of the operation which began December 1st, 2015.
- A Capability Assessment of all PHEP operations in the region was composed and ready to be completed and evaluated as well as additional PHEP administrative duties required for the December 1st launch.
- GTCHD Emergency Preparedness was present at the Benzie Leelanau Board of Health Meeting to provide representation to the NMPHEP Regional Team as the IGA went before their board for approval. Approval was received.

# MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

As the Medical Examiner's Office for three counties in Northern Michigan, we serve an important role in investigating deaths that are of concern to the public health, safety, and welfare of the community. Deaths reported to our office are investigated and in many cases the investigation includes a postmortem examination. The postmortem examination is often a complete autopsy; however, in some cases the examination may be limited to the external surfaces and/or toxicology testing. An autopsy is ordered by the Medical Examiner to determine the cause and/or manner of death, to answer additional questions about death, and often to collect evidence. If an autopsy is indicated, we partner with Western Michigan University School of Medicine for forensic pathology and anthropology services as needed.

In general, the deaths investigated by our office include those that are thought to result from injury or poisoning (such as homicide, suicide, and accidental deaths), and those deaths that are sudden, unexpected, and /or not readily explainable at the time of death. Because deaths occur around the clock, the Medical Examiner's Office operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

## 2015 Accomplishments

2015 was the first complete year for the combined three county medical examiner's office representing Grand Traverse, Benzie and Leelanau counties. Many improvements were made and more are in progress:

- Cremation permit authorizations, case investigations and reports completely automated.
- Changed forensic autopsy service to Western Michigan School of Medicine based on group consensus from law enforcement, prosecutors and administrators from Benzie, Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties with the following benefits:
  - » Autopsy cost is all inclusive of toxicology, labs, x-rays and other forensic investigation needed.
  - » Forensic anthropology expertise for identification of human remains.
- Nationally accredited facility and Medical Examiner's Office.
- 95% of autopsies and reports complete within 60 days.
- Autopsies conducted seven days a week.
- Timely, consistent reports for law enforcement, prosecutors and families.
- Provided area Medical Examiner scene investigators training on Michigan Laws, Gift of Life donations, scene investigations, photography, body handling, chain of custody, infant deaths, vulnerable adult deaths, report writing, and mass fatalities.
- Consistency for funeral homes and families in region.
- Staff attended Michigan Association of Medical Examiners Conference and training.
- Coordinated and assisted with scene investigator training locally to provide consistency, CEUs and updated electronic forms for scene investigations.

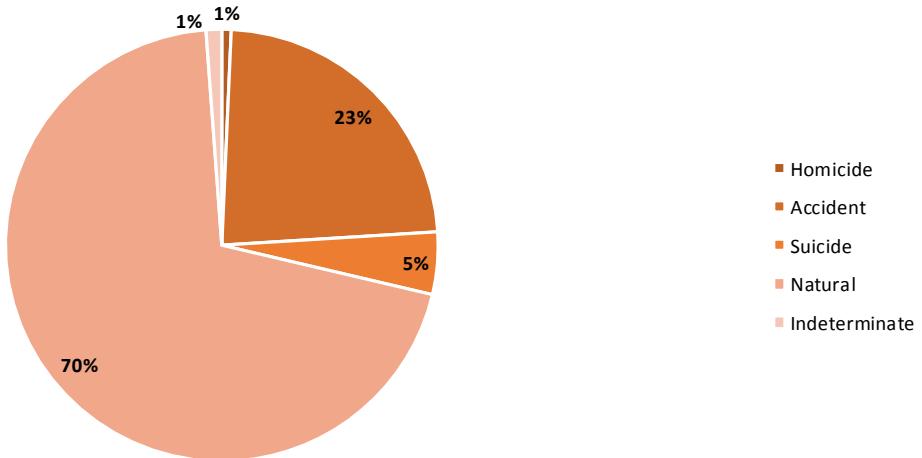
## On-going Services Provided by Medical Examiners Office:

- Review and authorization of cremation permits for all deaths occurring in Benzie, Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties.
- Issuance of death certificates for all deaths under Medical Examiner jurisdiction.
- Investigation and resolution of all cases referred by Primary Care Physicians.
- Full Investigation of all Medical Examiner cases.
- Coordination of case investigations needing autopsies-including transportation, medical history, law enforcement investigation and scene investigations.
- Investigation of next of kin for unclaimed bodies.
- Coordination of final disposition for unclaimed bodies.
- Coordination of Munson morgue usage for cases, post mortem exams, labs etc.
- Coordination with Gift of Life for organ donation (required by law).
- Participation in local Child Death Review team (required by law).
- Participation in local Vulnerable Adults Group and regional Opiate Task Force
- Annual review and approval of the Mass Fatality plans.
- Compilation and release of medical examiner reports as requested by families, law enforcement, prosecutors, lawyers, OSHA, MDHHS, etc.
- Testimony in court as requested by prosecutors.
- Review of findings with next of kin.
- Electronic tracking of case information, investigations and reports.

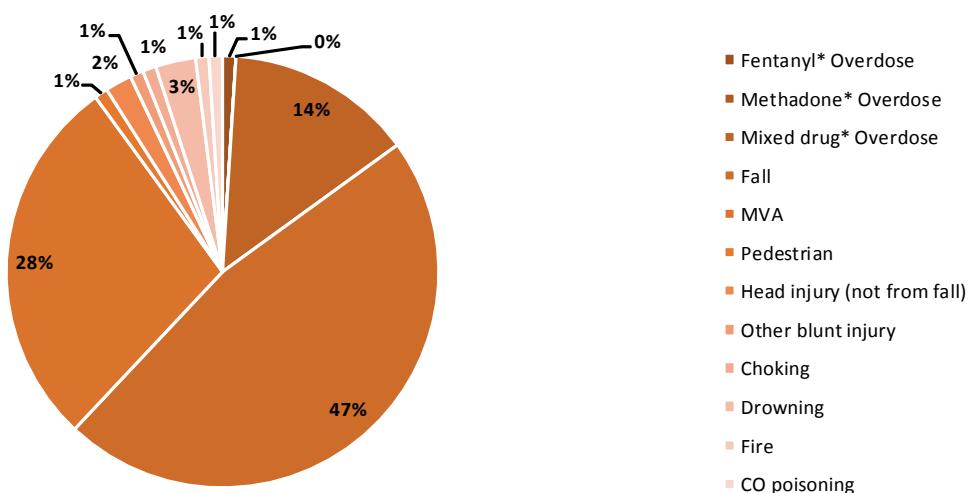
Manner/Cause of Death	Grand Traverse	Benzie	Leelanau	Total
<b>Homicide</b>	3	0	0	3
Strangulation/Blunt Force	1	0	0	1
Poisoning	2	0	0	2
<b>Accidental</b>	83	10	7	100
Fentanyl Overdose	0	1	0	1
Methadone Overdose	0	0	0	0
Mixed Drug Overdose	7	6	1	14
Fall	45	0	2	47
MVA (Motor Vehicle Accident)	22	3	3	28
Pedestrian	1	0	0	1
Head injury (not from fall)	2	0	0	1
Other Blunt Injury	1	0	0	1
Choking	1	0	0	1
Drowning	2	0	1	3
Fire	1	0	0	1
CO Poisoning	1	0	0	1
<b>Suicide</b>	18	1	1	20
Firearm	7	1	1	9
Overdose	5	0	0	5
Hanging	3	0	0	3
Suffocation	1	0	0	1
Exsanguination	1	0	0	1
Carbon Monoxide	1	0	0	1
<b>Natural</b>	252	24	25	301
<b>Indeterminate</b>	5	0	0	5
Missing Person	1	0	0	1
Fire	2	0	0	2
Drowning	1	0	0	1
Hemorrhage	1	0	0	1
<b>All Causes Total</b>	361	35	33	429

Total Tri-County ME Statistics	Grand Traverse	Benzie	Leelanau	Total
Cases Referred to ME Office	1352	138	138	1630
Cremation Permits Investigated and Authorized	993	103	105	1201
Cases Referred Back to Attending Physician	217	20	18	255
Cases Investigated for Cause of Death, Post Mortem Exam and/or Toxicology	361	35	33	429

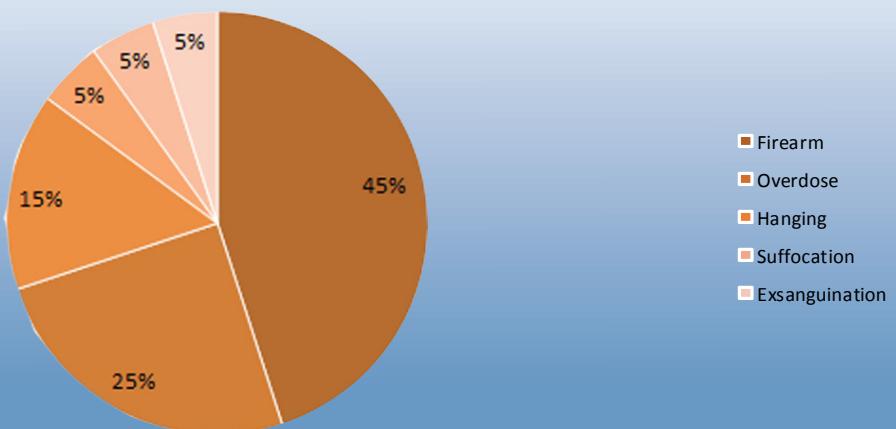
## 2015 Tri County Deaths by Manner



## 2015 Tri County Deaths by Cause



## 2015 Tri County Suicide Deaths by Cause



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & ANIMAL CONTROL

The Environmental Health Division protects the public's health through programs established by the Public Health Code and local Environmental Health regulations. The programs focus on the prevention of disease and exposure to pollutants via education, inspection of facilities, and enforcement of state laws and local ordinances. Most of the prevention and abatement of environmental threats are accomplished through education of the clients and the general population. The Environmental Health programs include:

- Food service inspections
- Subdivision plat reviews
- Child care facility inspections
- Beach monitoring
- Septage vehicle inspections
- Rodent and insect control investigations
- Septic and well permits
- Groundwater protection
- Public pool and campground inspections
- Site Surveys
- Body art licensing
- Environmental complaint investigations

Program	Services	Number of Services		
		2013	2014	2015
On-Site Water and Waste Water	Well Permits	340	294	313
	Sewage Permits	394	304	352
Food Service	Routine Inspections	539	548	552
	Follow-up Inspections	169	127	126
	Vending Inspections	39	28	26
	Enforcement Hearings	8	3	4
	Food Borne Investigations	0	0	0
	Public Complaints	22	24	9
	Temporary Permits	98	104	83
Public Pool & Campground Monitoring	Campground Inspections	19	20	20
	Public Swimming Pool Inspections	93	95	92
Beach Monitoring (seven public beaches on East & West Grand Traverse Bay)	Total Samples	135	103	158
	Level 1 Samples (full body contact allowed)	130	93	147
	Level 2 Samples (contact above waist not advised)	4	7	3
	Level 3 (contact with water not advised)	1	3	3
	Level 4 (gross contamination of beach waters, avoid body contact)	-	1*	-

\*Precautionary advisory.

## Animal Control

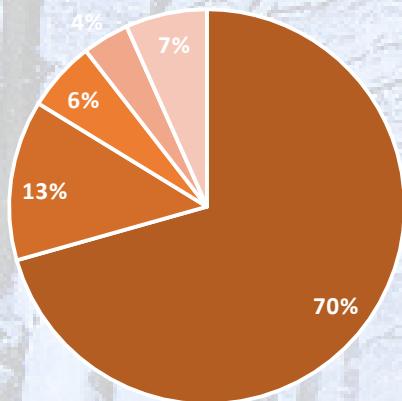
The Grand Traverse County Health Department provided Animal Control services in 2015 for all of the Grand Traverse region. Under the supervision of the Environmental Health Director, there were two certified Animal Control Officers, who patrolled and protected the County residents and animals. Additionally, the officers worked with the Health Department's Communicable Disease program for the control of rabies and other zoonotic diseases.

Services	Number of Cases		
	2013	2014	2015
Complaint Investigations	651	751	778
Dogs Seized & Impounded	283	261	243
Dogs Redeemed (claimed by owners)	97	118	116
Citations Issued	85	85	99

# 2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## Expenditures

Community Health	\$4,229,673
Environmental Health	\$786,908
Emergency Preparedness and Management	\$343,847
Animal Control	\$229,668
Medical Examiner	\$398,758
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,988,854</b>



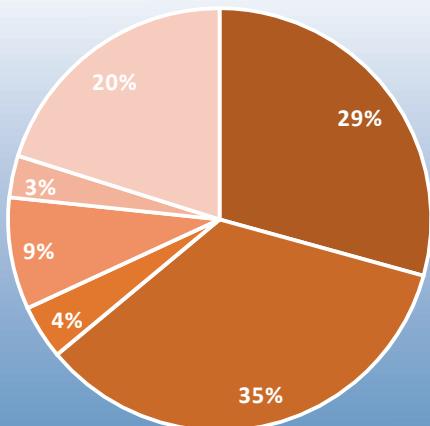
## Expenditures

- Community Health
- Environmental Health
- Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management
- Animal Control
- Medical Examiner

## Revenues

State and Federal Funds	\$1,934,143
Medicaid and Cost Settlement	\$2,288,369
Private Medical Insurance	\$274,645
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	\$565,817
Local Grants	\$211,143
County Appropriations	\$1,328,566
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,602,683</b>

## Revenues



- State and Federal Funds
- Medicaid and Cost Settlement
- Private Medical Insurance
- Licenses, Permits, and Fees
- Local Grants
- County Appropriations

# COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

## Collaboration Partners

GTCHD is proud to collaborate with multiple area health care professionals and organizations to bring additional services, education projects, and information to our region. These collaborative partners include:

- A.C. Paw
- Alliance of Michigan
- American Red Cross
- Benzie County
- Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department
- Central Michigan University
- Cherryland Humane Society
- City of Traverse City
- Community Action Agency
- Concerned Citizen Advocates
- Dental Clinics North
- District Health Department 10
- Ferris State University
- Grand Traverse Community Collaborative
- Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office Marine Division
- Grand Traverse County Parks & Recreation
- Grand Traverse Metro Fire
- Grand Traverse Bay Power Squadron
- Grand Traverse Area Hospitality Association
- H.A.N.D.S.
- Health Department of Northwest Michigan
- Kingsley Area Schools
- Kirtland Community College
- Leelanau County
- Local Water Safety Expert
- Master Swim Team/TCOWS
- Michigan Association for Local Public Health
- Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
- Michigan Department of Community Health
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Michigan Land Institute
- Michigan Primary Care Association
- Michigan State University
- Michigan Sea Grant
- MSU Extension
- National Weather Service
- Municipalities and Townships
- Munson Healthcare
- National Cherry Festival
- Northwest Michigan Health Services, Inc.
- Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services
- Northern Michigan Vaccine Preventable Disease Task Force
- Oakland University
- Perinatal Regional Planning Group
- Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
- Region 7 Homeland Security
- Safe Kids North Shore
- School Community Health
- Shape Up North Community Awareness Committee
- The Rock
- The Watershed Center
- Third Level Crisis Counseling
- Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District
- Traverse City Area Public Schools
- Traverse City Film Festival
- Traverse Health Clinic & Coalition
- United States Coast Guard
- University of Michigan
- Village of Kingsley
- Watershed Center of Grand Traverse Bay
- Wayne State University

## Collaboration Projects

- Baby Comfort Station
- Beach Monitoring Program
- Birthing Hospital Mini-Grants
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program
- Child Death Review
- Childhood Lead Poison Prevention
- Coalition Health Access Program
- Community Health Needs Assessment
- Dog Adoption to Local Rescues
- Early On
- Grand Traverse Baby Pantry and Laundry Project
- Great Start Initiative
- Head Start
- Healthy Futures
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Love for Children
- Multiple Collegiate Clinical Rotations
- Munson Community Health Committee
- Northern Michigan Cross Jurisdictional Sharing Team
- Northern Michigan Diabetes Initiative
- Northern Michigan Hom Visiting Leadership Program
- Northern Michigan Maternal Smoking Cessation Workgroup
- Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance
- Northwest Michigan Water Safety Network
- Pediatric Cardiology Clinic
- Perinatal Regional Initiative
- Poverty Reduction Initiative
- Pre-natal Substance use Disorder Committee
- Project Fresh
- Region 7 Emergency Preparedness
- Shaken Baby Syndrome Work Group
- Teen Parent Program
- Traverse Bay Area Tobacco Coalition
- Tri-County Medical Examiner
- Vaccines for Children
- Water Safety Task Force

# 2015 HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

## Administration

### Health Officer

Wendy S. Trute, M.P.H., C.P.H.A.

### Medical Director

Dr. Michael Collins, A.B., M.D.

### Outreach Coordinator/Public Information Officer

Rose Ann M. Davis, B.A., P.P.M.

### Administrative Secretary

Debi Miner, B.A.  
Lana Payne

### MIS Technician

Rich Pantano, A.A.S

## Finance & Administrative Services

### Director

Marissa Milliron, C.P.A., M.B.A.

### Accountant

Erin Carlson, B.B.A.

### Staff:

Kurstan Crawford, Account Clerk Specialist  
Carol Ritter, A.A.S. Accounting Technician

## Environmental Health & Animal Control

### Director

Tom Buss, B.S., R.S.

### Environmental Health Coordinator

Randy Emeott, B.S., R.S.

### Staff:

Cindy Burkhardt, A.A.S. Certified Animal Control Officer  
Eric Burt, B.A., R.S. Sanitarian  
Edward Hickey, Certified Animal Control Officer  
Mike Kolbusz, B.A., R.S. Sanitarian  
Craig Preston, B.A., R.E.H.S. Sanitarian  
Leslie Maher, B.S. Office Specialist  
Dan Thorell, M.S., R.S. Sanitarian

## Emergency Management & Public Health Preparedness

### Emergency Management Supervisor

Gregg Bird, B.S., P.E.M.

### Emergency Preparedness Specialist

Michael Lahey, B.S., M.P.H.

## Medical Examiner

### Chief Medical Examiner

Dr. Nicole J. Fliss, M.D.

### Deputy Medical Examiner

Dr. Kari Young, D.O.

### Forensic Investigator

Jamie Warnes, B.S., R.N.

## Community Health

### Disease Control & Prevention Services Director

Martha Thorell, R.N., B.S.N., M.P.A.

### Adolescent Health Supervisor

Chris Roggen, R.N., B.S.N.

### Maternal & Child Health Services Director

Jodi Kelly, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.

### Program Supervisor Maternal & Child Health Services

Lori Wesolowski, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.

### Immunization Lead

Shelia Corner, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse

### Clinical Informatics

Kim White, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse

### Staff:

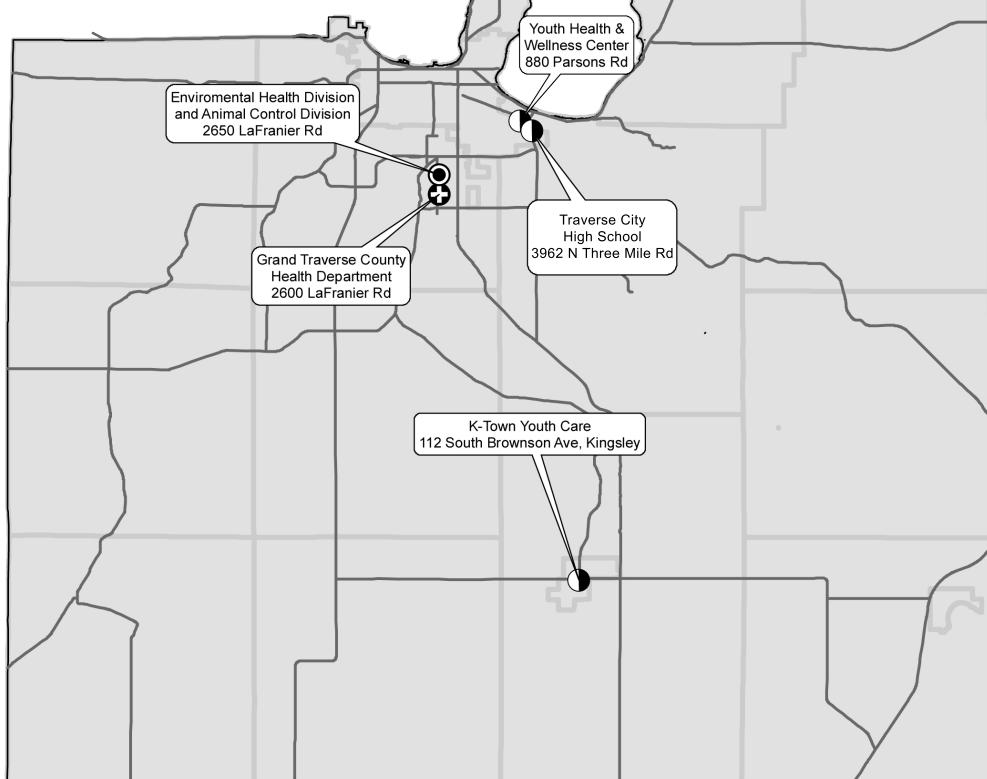
Amber Alderman, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Dianna Anderson, Administrative Secretary  
Jamie Beck, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Suzanne Cork, L.P.N., C.H.T., C.V.T. Licensed Personal Nurse  
Deborah Deering, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Patricia Drake, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Jan Frazee, A.N.P. - B.C. Nurse Practitioner  
Patricia Friedli, A.N.P. - B.C. Nurse Practitioner  
Cynthia Gelbaugh, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Courtney Guy, B.B.A. Office Specialist  
Chimene Harrison, Personal Health Technician  
Traci Harvey, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Anne Hughes, M.S.N., F.N.P. - B.C. Nurse Practitioner  
Erin Johnson, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Karen Johnson, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Sharon Johnson, C.M.T. Office Specialist  
Laurie Johnston, Office Specialist  
Lindsay King, L.M.S.W., C.P.S.-M Social Worker  
Vikki Klingelsmith, A.A.S. Hearing & Vision Coordinator  
Carolyn Kristof, B.S. Personal Health Technician  
Laura Laisure, R.N., M.S. Public Health Nurse  
Amy Leiva, R.N., B.S.N., Adolescent Health Supervisor  
Alicia Mason M.S.N. F.N.P. - B.C. Nurse Practitioner  
Heide McNichols, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Jessica Meister, Public Health Technician  
Kimberly Michels, M.S.N., F.N.P. Nurse Practitioner  
Amy Miner, R.N., B.S.N. Public Health Nurse  
Rebecca Noonan, B.S., R.D. Registered Dietitian  
Marie Nugent, R.N., A.D.N Public Health Nurse  
Theresa Orlikowski, R.N., A.D.N Public Health Nurse  
Jennifer Pedroza, M.S.W. Social Worker  
Robin Ratcliffe, B.S., R.D. Registered Dietitian  
Diane Reeder, Personal Health Technician  
Danielle Rice, Vision/Hearing Technician  
Lavonia Seidel, Office Specialist  
Amanda Stuart, Breast Feeding Peer Counselor  
Christine Thompson, Breast Feeding Peer Counselor  
Deb Truran, R.N. Public Health Nurse  
Janice Wurm, Personal Health Technician

# 2015

## GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SERVICE LOCATIONS

### FACILITIES

- Community Outreach
- Environmental Health Division and Animal Control Division
- ✚ Grand Traverse County Health Department



Grand Traverse County Health Department

2600 LaFranier Road, Ste. A

Traverse City, MI 49686

231-995-6100

[www.gtchd.org](http://www.gtchd.org)