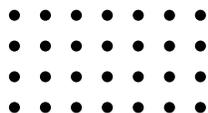


2024

Annual Report

Two Locations.
One Mission.



TAZEWELLHEALTH.ORG



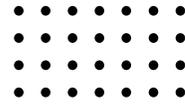
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About Us



Mission

To promote and protect the public's health and well-being.

Vision

The Tazewell County Health Department (TCHD) will be a state leader and partner, serving the community through innovative public health practices to meet the current and future needs of the individual and of the environment, with the ultimate goal of inspiring and attaining overall wellness.

Values

The Tazewell County Health Department is dedicated to our community through:

Service: Understanding and meeting public health needs with equity, creativity and commitment.

Quality: Continuously seeking to enhance and provide services at the highest possible level.

Accountability: Ensuring responsible use of resources to benefit the community.

Integrity: Being ethical and reliable.

Collaboration: Communicating, working together with, and supporting community partners for the overall good of the public.

Innovation: Being a leader in anticipating and addressing public health needs through surveillance, planning, education, and evidence-based resources.

Respect: Relating to all people with understanding, compassion and dignity.



Board of Health



- Bobbi Mullis, RN - President**
- Gary Burton - Vice President**
- Rich Karneboge - Secretary**
- Steven Dickey, D.D.S.**
- David Dingledine**
- Amy Grugan, PhD, RN**
- Jay Hall**
- Sarah Koscica, M.D.**
- Gloria Ranney**
- Adam Sturdavant, M.D.**
- Aaron Yoder**
- Hannah Clark - Treasurer,**
- Tazewell County**



Back row: Amy Grugan, Dr. Sarah Koscica, Gloria Ranney, Bobbi Mullis, Jay Hall
Front row: David Dingledine, Gary Burton, Rich Karneboge, Dr. Adam Sturdavant

The Tazewell County Health Department Board of Health members are appointed by the Chairman of the Tazewell County Board.

Eleven members comprise the Board of Health and serve 3-year terms voluntarily.

Board of Health meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Board Room of the Tazewell County Health Department's Tremont location.

Health Service Committee

- Jay Hall, Chairman**
- Greg Sinn, Vice Chair**
- Sam Goddard**
- Vivian Hagaman**
- Greg Longfellow**
- Roy Paget**
- Sierra Smith**

The Health Service Committee serve as a liaison to the Board of Health, supervise Animal Control, act as members of the Regional Pollution Control Site Heating Committee, and oversee the County Solid Waste Management Plan. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm at Tazewell County Health Department.



Message from the Administrator

Dear Tazewell County residents

As we reflect on the past year, it is with great pride and gratitude that I present to you the Tazewell County Health Department's 2024 annual report.

In these pages, you will find a testament to the dedication, resilience, and innovation of our team and our partners as we navigated our community's health and challenges together. We hope you enjoy the new format that seeks to highlight the array of services we provide.

Since the establishment of TCHD in 1970, we have persevered in achieving our goals. At times we have had uncertainty and ambiguity in our funding which is expected in any environment whose income relies heavily on grants and fees for service. This year and the upcoming will be no different. December 1, 2025, will be our health department's 55th anniversary. Our commitment to safeguarding the health and well-being of our communities remains steadfast.

Through collaborative efforts, investment, and support from Tazewell County leadership and the Tazewell County Board of Health, we made significant strides in promoting health equity by opening our TCHD Pekin Facility on November 19th, 2024. We want to especially thank Mike Schone, Tazewell County Facilities Director and his staff who worked tirelessly to make this move and remodel a reality.

Our staff are "people serving people." We recognize and keep that statement in mind as our work extends far beyond the confines of our department — it is a shared responsibility that requires collective action and engagement from all sectors of society. With that, staff have spent the year working on gathering data for our upcoming Community Health Assessment (CHA) by surveying citizens on their health and opinions in areas such as nutrition, safety, healthcare access, and mental health. This information will be vital in understanding and selecting our community's most important health needs in the spring of 2025.

I extend my deepest appreciation to our dedicated public health team, partners, and stakeholders for their unwavering support, collaboration, and belief in the TCHD vision for all Tazewell County residents. Together, we will continue to chart a course towards a healthier future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Fox".

Amy Fox
Administrator, Tazewell County Health Department

A Sad Goodbye, but A Cheery Hello



Pictured Above:
Outgoing Assistant Administrator Karla Burress
and New Assistant Administrator Stacie Ealey

Karla Burress, TCHD's Assistant Administrator retired on June 14th, 2024, after serving more than 34 years of her life in Public Health. The last 30 of those years have been here at TCHD! Karla has been a positive influence and leader in the foundational work at TCHD. Karla worked to gain the necessary knowledge to lead TCHD staff through our Public Health Accreditation process by serving as a site visitor at other health departments' reviews around the United States, bringing back that understanding of the standards and measures to TCHD so that we could deepen our processes to meet this national gold standard.

In addition, Karla became a Quality Improvement leader, working to become trained in the Kaizen method of rapid improvement. Karla led TCHD and other county departments through this work to increase efficiency and effectiveness of county resources.

Karla started her career in the WIC program and was the Director of the Birth to Five division before accepting the Assistant Administrator position.

We thank Karla for her service to our staff and the community! Her work is embedded in the fabric of TCHD and will bring benefits for many years to come.

Upon Karla's retirement, Stacie Ealey was chosen to be her successor. Stacie has worked at TCHD for over 20 years and was the Director of Community Health prior to accepting her new role as Assistant Administrator.

Welcome to TCHD - Pekin

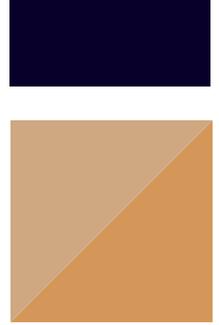
TCHD's biggest project of 2024 was the opening of a second, permanent location for the Health Department. On November 19, TCHD staff, Board of Health, and County Board members gathered to cut the ribbon for the grand opening of TCHD's new location at 1800 Broadway St. in Pekin. The culmination of nearly two years of work, the opening of this new facility has allowed TCHD to better serve Tazewell County.

By moving Clinic services and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program to Pekin, TCHD has gotten closer to the county's population center. In addition, the new building is located on a bus line. This allows clients who may have had challenges accessing services in the past to now visit this location with the help of public transportation, enhancing convenience and accessibility in the process. The new facility also includes a Dental clinic which will re-open to the public in the near future.

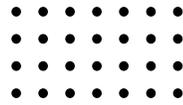
. While maintaining full time hours at the Pekin location, beginning in January 2025, Clinic & WIC services will be available in Tremont on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month.

TCHD Tremont has consolidated with this move from two buildings to one, our Environmental Health Services are now in the larger main building in Tremont. This move allows for more efficient use of space and reduces the costs of maintaining an additional building.

We want to thank the Tazewell County Board and Board of Health for their collaboration and cooperation on this project which has allowed us to better serve our community.



An Award-Winning Year



Steve Amstutz, Charles Hanley, Stefanie Leafgreen



Chris Schaefer, EH Director Melissa Goetze

Gordon Poquette Leadership Award

The Gordon Poquette Leadership Award was named to honor Gordon Poquette, the first Tazewell County Health Department Director of Public Health. Winners are employees of Tazewell County Health Department who show leadership in public health and increase the effectiveness of TCHD.

- **Carline Ehrett, Program Assistant**
- **Megan Hanley, Epidemiologist**

Margaret Burt Public Health Partnership

The Margaret Burt Public Health Partnership Award was named to honor Margaret Burt, who was on the original Board of Health in 1970 and served for several years. Margaret Burt was a champion of public health, not only in Tazewell County but throughout the state of Illinois. Community members or agency personnel who have impacted the health and safety of Tazewell County residents are nominated by Health Department staff for this award.

- **Steve Amstutz, Pekin Fire**
- **Charles Hanley, Tazewell County Coroner**
- **Stefanie Leafgreen, Community Volunteer**
- **Chris Schaefer, Pekin Wastewater Treatment Plant**



Carline Ehrett, Megan Hanley

An Award-Winning Year

Service Awards

30 Years

- Janet Johnson
- Michele Scharping

25 Years

- Kerri Viets

20 Years

- Ashley Purdy
- Beth Beachy

15 Years

- Drew Johnson

10 Years

- Amanda Hunt

5 Years

- Carline Ehrett
- Megan Leeper
- Beth Scheuermann
- Rhonda Stoops
- Jamie Webb
- Diane Harms



Back Row: Amanda Hunt, Drew Johnson, Janet Johnson
Front Row: Diane Harms, Jamie Webb, Amanda Hunt, Carline Ehrett, Ashley Purdy, Kerri Viets, Michele Scharping



Katelynn Girard

Director of Community Health
Katelynn Girard won the 2024 Next Generation of Afterschool Leaders Award from the National AfterSchool Association. The award honors people under 30 who elevate the afterschool field.



Joanie Falcon

Birth to Five division Family Case Manager Joanie Falcon won the Home Visiting Impact Award from Prevent Child Abuse Illinois and Start Early. The award was in recognition of her positive impact within home visiting.



Emerson Roden

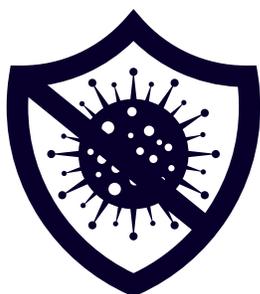
Environmental Health Specialist
Emerson Roden won the Newcomer of the Year Award from the Illinois Environmental Health Association. The award recognizes outstanding environmental health professionals with two or fewer years of experience in the field.

Disease Intervention and Long-Term Care Specialist (DIS) Program

Diligent surveillance of disease trends is a primary focus of public health. Outbreaks of respiratory diseases can occur in any setting, but are especially prevalent among the high-risk and fragile populations in congregate care/long-term care facilities. With the support of an IDPH grant, the Clinic Division developed a Disease Intervention and Long-Term Care Specialist (DIS) program.

This program helps support our congregate care partners with infection control guidance, education, and outbreak mitigation support. The work of our DIS team is led by our Epidemiologist and Clinic Director, and includes dedicated DIS staff and our Clinic nursing staff.

The DIS program also conducts case investigations for infectious disease cases, provides N95 respirator fit-testing equipment and training resources, and works with schools and healthcare partners to meet reporting requirements. The DIS team conducts infection control assessment/response visits in congregate care settings to identify gaps in infection control practices, reporting, and plans. These visits are designed to support congregate care staff, are collaborative in nature, and have been instrumental in building strong and trusting partnerships with facilities.



TCHD Clinic Supervisor Brittany McConnell (left) and Epidemiologist Megan Hanley (right) work on tracking respiratory illness.

10

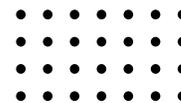
On-site ICAR visits conducted to discuss infection prevention in congregate care

35

Outbreaks investigated and mitigated by the DIS program

893

Residents protected through ICAR visits to facilities throughout Tazewell County



National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Food Program Grant



TCHD EH Specialist Elliot Lusk

Annually, members of Environmental Health (EH) across the country participate in National Environmental Health Association's (NEHA) grant work funded by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The purpose of this grant is specifically to strengthen the food program.

In 2024, Tazewell County EH focused on Standard 1: Regulatory Foundation. To meet this grant standard, EH had to verify that the regulations enforced during food inspections aligned with FDA Model Food Code standards.

This was successfully satisfied by adopting the 2017 FDA Model Food Code, but as EH reviewed Standard 1 in greater detail, we identified some gaps that could be addressed to strengthen our program, particularly regarding enforcement and compliance. That included determining how a sanitarian should proceed if denied access to a kitchen for a routine inspection and creating a restriction or exclusion order for a suspected ill employee actively working in a food establishment.

After determining these focus areas, the next step was for EH to get the new requirements included in the Tazewell County Ordinance: Chapter 95: Food Establishments, allowing EH to enforce the new regulations. This work involved drafting talking points regarding the proposed language for the Tazewell County Ordinance, meeting with the State's Attorney to discuss legality, and presenting the talking points to Tazewell County Health Services, the Executive Board, and the Tazewell County Board of Health. On July 31, 2024, our enforcement provisions were unanimously approved by the Tazewell County Board and are now part of the Tazewell County Ordinance.

After completing the process of getting our proposed action items into the ordinance, it was time to be audited to determine if we fully met Standard 1. The audit process consists of first completing a self-assessment of the standard, followed by having an individual from outside EH review the submission materials. For this standard, the Peoria City County Health Department served as the auditor and determined that Standard 1 was fully met. TCHD will continue working on additional grant standards in 2025.

9

Standards that must be achieved to complete the grant

246

TCHD meets all 246 provisions to successfully meet Standard 1

5

Every 5 years, a self-assessment must be conducted on all 9 standards



Overdose Response in Tazewell County

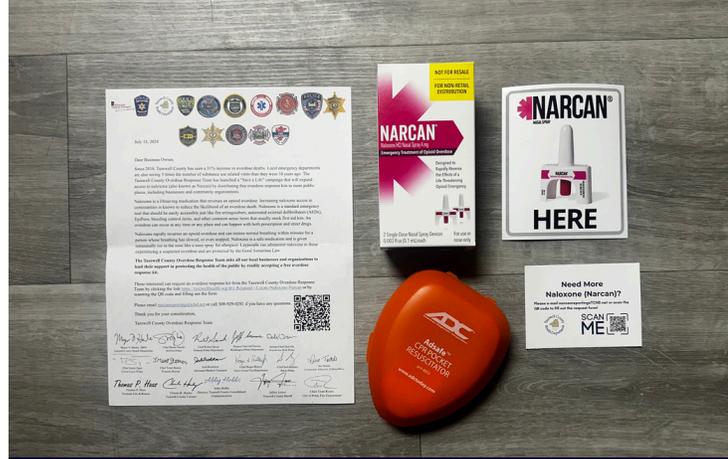
In 2024, TCHD, in collaboration with the Tazewell County Overdose Response Team, increased community access to naloxone (Narcan) and education surrounding overdose in Tazewell County to reduce overdose related morbidity and mortality.

In order to reduce the barriers to accessing the potentially life-saving overdose reversal medication, TCHD has partnered with 12 organizations from various communities in the county to distribute Naloxone. Four of those locations are accessible 24 hours, 7 days a week. TCHD has also added naloxone administration to its CPR classes and has assisted a local fire department in doing the same.

Additionally, two local fire departments have piloted a “Leave Behind Narcan” program. In this program, after responders treat an individual who has experienced an overdose, they are able to have a conversation with family members or friends of the individual who overdosed and provide local treatment and recovery resources and naloxone if the individual overdoses again.

The Overdose Response Team also launched a “Narcan Saves a Life” campaign in summer 2024. This campaign’s goal is to normalize naloxone as a lifesaving medication that belongs in any emergency or first aid kit, just like an AED. Through this program in 2024, TCHD distributed 526 nasal naloxone kits to community partners at a variety of distribution locations.

Through this unified effort, 2024 saw a significant decrease in Tazewell County’s overdose mortality rate. In order to continue 2024’s success, in 2025 and beyond, this work will be done through the Tazewell Community Initiative (TCI) which was born out of the merging of the Overdose Response Team and the Tazewell Teen Initiative (TTI) in November of 2024.



526 Nasal naloxone (narcan) kits distributed in Tazewell County in 2024

12 Community organizations have FREE nasal naloxone available to the public

59% The decrease in overdose deaths in Tazewell County since 2021

“When I got on scene, the bystanders had used Narcan already. It was the kind that comes from the health department.”
- Local First Responder



21st Century Community Learning Centers (21stCCLC)

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21stCCLC) grant enhances after-school programming at CB Smith Primary School, Dirksen Primary School, Jefferson Primary School, LaSalle Elementary School, and South Pekin Grade School. The grant began in August 2021 and will have served 508 students when it concludes at the end of this school year.

21stCCLC program goals include improving student achievement in core academic areas, increasing student attendance and social emotional skills, and collaborating with the school and community-based organizations. Data analysis of teacher and tutoring surveys indicated 66.8% of participants increased in academic performance and an average of 80.1% of participants exhibited positive social emotional skills in the classrooms.



Students from LaSalle Elementary School's 21stCCLC Program

Students actively engage in homework help, academic enrichment activities, and are provided with the opportunity to participate in tutoring sessions with classroom teachers. Life-skills programming is also incorporated to improve student's overall self-esteem and their social emotional skills surrounding decision making, problem-solving abilities, anger management and conflict resolution.

In addition to in-the-classroom learning opportunities, 21stCCLC has collaborated with community members to provide additional enrichment opportunities during programming hours. This has included visits from local fire departments, police departments, post offices, and food banks to educate students on the world around them.

Students are further supported outside the classroom through resources provided to program families. To determine how best to support our families, a parents-need assessment was conducted. The following were indicated by parents as topics on which they'd like more information: anxiety and depression, social emotional learning, limiting screen time, career planning, trauma, nutrition, and STEM. Families have been connected with education and resources regarding these and other topics as a result

As the grant comes to an end in 2025, we will be celebrating with an author night for students to showcase the books they have created using the "Write Brain Book" curriculum. The students will receive a book to keep, and a book will be donated to the library of their choice!

66.8%

Of students displayed increased academic performance

80.1%

Of students exhibited positive social emotional skills

508

Students enrolled in 21stCCLC afterschool programs from 2021-2025



Eatable Alphabet

In an effort to introduce fresh fruits and vegetables into the diets and minds of the county's youngest community members, TCHD staff members from a variety of departments presented the *Eatable Alphabet* curriculum to students enrolled in the Tazewell Woodford Head Start Program (TWHSP) throughout March and April. Each lesson included the introduction of 2 letters with corresponding fruits or vegetables. In addition, each student received a take home bag that contained a fruit or vegetable along with activities and a recipe to share with their family. At the end of the series, each student was given a copy of the Eatable Alphabet book to take home to continue their learning.

Students began each lesson by being introduced to the letter(s) of the day, the sounds they make, words that start with the letter, and a physical activity corresponding to the fruit/vegetable or letter. They were then taught how to say the fruit/vegetable in Spanish. The students were then given the opportunity to explore touching and smelling the items before moving on to the tasting portion of the lesson. Fruits and vegetables were tasted on their own and then the instructors used them in 1-2 simple recipes and offered them to the students to taste. The students were polled with a thumbs up/thumbs down survey for each individual fruit and vegetable as well as each recipe. Over the four-week curriculum, the raw fruits/vegetables received 689 thumbs up while recipes received 883 positive responses.

The teachers were also surveyed at the end of the series and 100% of the teachers were satisfied/highly satisfied with the programming and 100% of the teachers requested the programming again in 2025. Comments from the teacher survey repeatedly shared that the children were still talking about the program at the end of the school year. This program will be taught with a new selection of fruits and vegetables in 2025.

"The Eatable Alphabet program was wonderful and my kids really enjoyed it. Because of it, they are trying new foods even though they're very picky eaters!"
-Local Head Start Parent

234

Students were presented with the Eatable Alphabet curriculum



Students from Tazewell Woodford Head Start Program

12

New/unfamiliar fruits and vegetables introduced to students

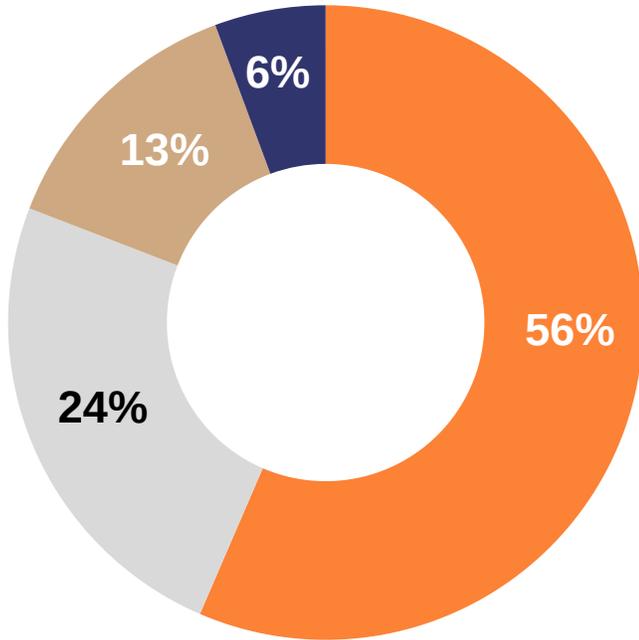
"We all like to hear about successes, and Eatable Alphabet surely made a difference for one family and I'm sure many more! Hopefully, we can do it again next year!"
- Donna Ashley, TWHSP Director

Fiscal Year 2023

Budget Information

December 2022-November 2023

REVENUE



\$3,679,180



\$1,588,232



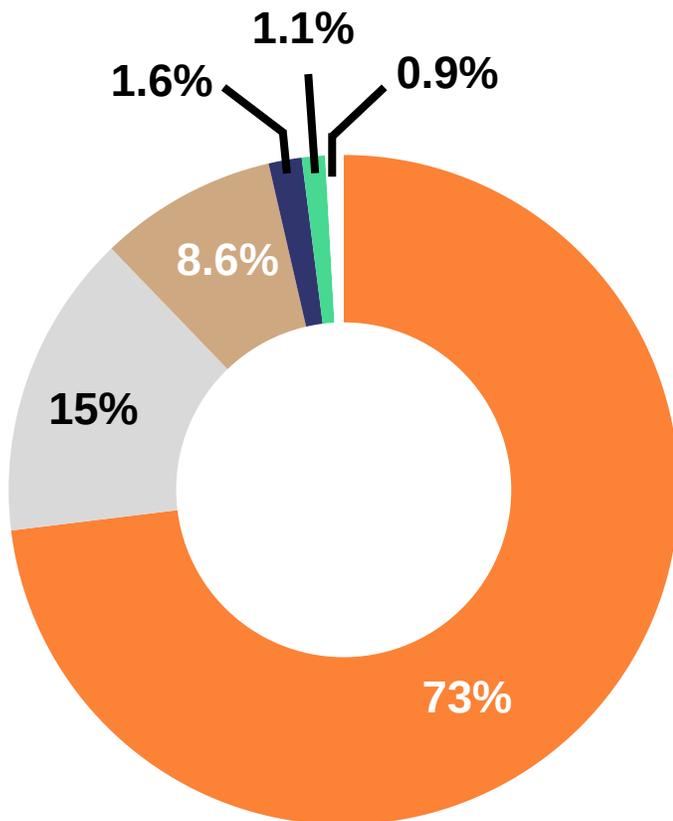
\$878,587



\$368,164

Total Revenue: \$6,514,163

EXPENSES



\$4,419,677



\$892,147



\$519,657



\$96,708



\$67,543



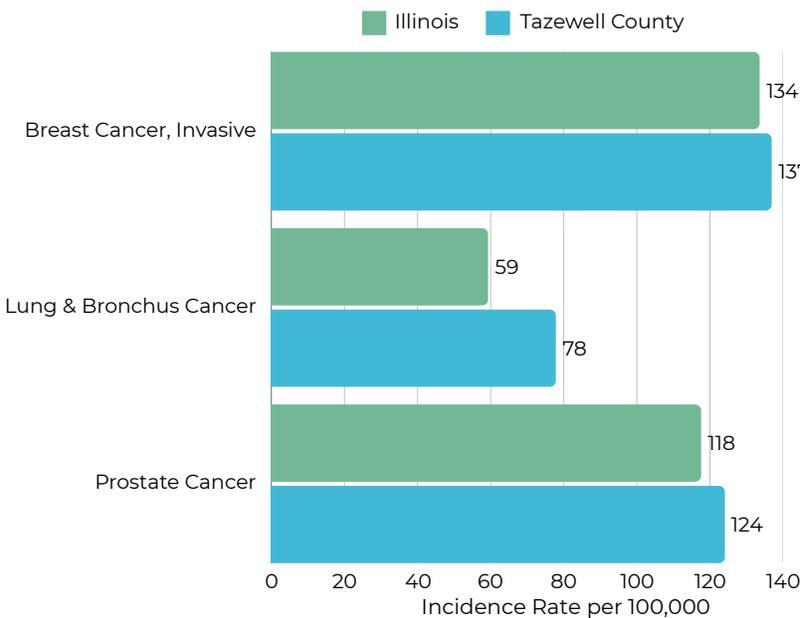
\$53,655

Total Expenses: \$6,049,387

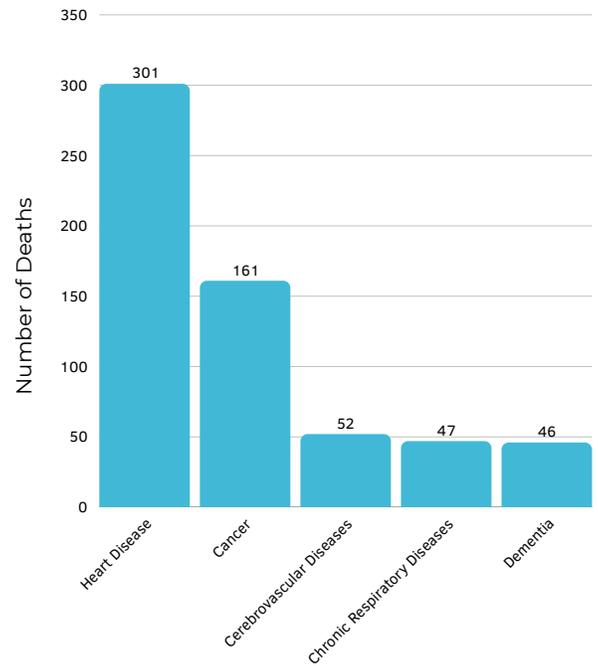
Net Income: \$464,776

TCHD Data Reports

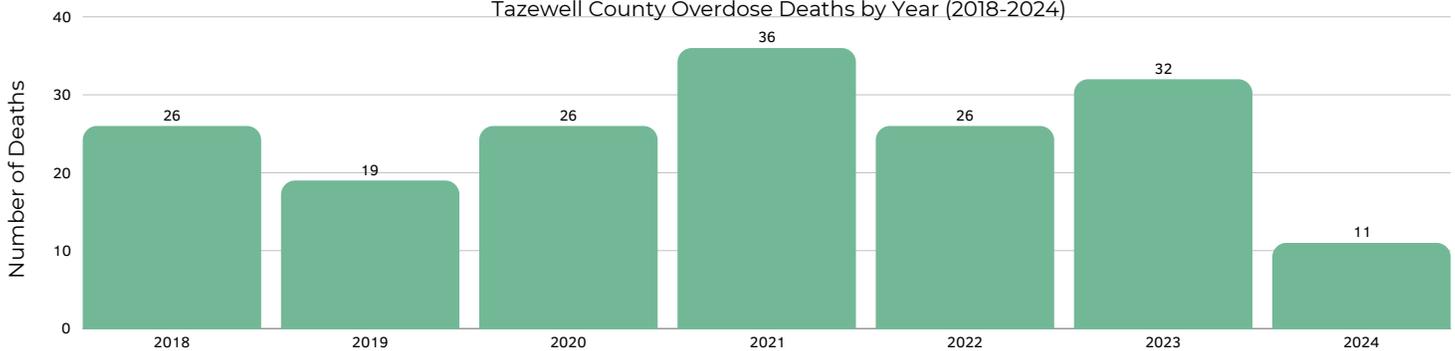
Incidence of Top 3 Cancer Types in Tazewell County, 2017-2021



Top 5 Leading Causes of Death, Tazewell County, 2024



Tazewell County Overdose Deaths by Year (2018-2024)



As shown above, throughout the year, Tazewell County Health Department epidemiologist Megan Hanley compiles monthly data reports on a new health-related topic each month as it pertains to Tazewell County. From causes of death to cancer to overdose statistics, these data reports serve as an opportunity to share critical information and data with the community. It is our hope that, when armed with the necessary data and information, this will lead to community members making positive health decisions and increasing the overall wellness of our county.

For access to all of our data reports, please scan the QR code!



Appendix A: Communicable Disease Data

*Denotes diseases not reported in prior years due to changes in Administrative Code

	2022	2023	2024
Acute Flaccid Myelitis	0	0	1
Anaplasma Phagocytophilum	0	0	1
Campylobacteriosis	12	31	29
Chlamydia	285	421	292
COVID-19 ICU Hospitalizations	*	*	155
Cryptosporidiosis	3	7	10
E. Coli	0	2	7
Gonorrhea	95	123	109
Group A Strep Invasive	3	19	6
Hepatitis A	1	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute	9	5	0
Hepatitis B Chronic	0	0	6
Histoplasmosis	12	3	4
HIV	0	1	3
Influenza ICU Hospitalizations	9	7	9
Legionellosis	2	2	1
Listeria	0	0	0
Lyme	6	13	3
Mumps	2	1	0
Pertussis	0	1	28
Rabies - Potential Human Exposure	43	44	25
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) ICU Hospitalization	*	*	14
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	2	19	25
Shigella	0	2	2
Syphilis	4	3	6
Tularemia	0	0	1
Active TB Cases	0	0	4
Latent TB Cases	1	1	1
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	0	1
West Nile Virus	0	0	2
Extensively Drug Resistant Organisms (XDRO)	*	*	13

Appendix B: Clinic Division Data

	2022	2023	2024
Hearing Screenings	144	236	216
Vision Screenings	129	226	204
H&V Referrals	0	7	9
Immunizations	6258	3879	3895
Flu Immunizations	1210	867	734
Pneumonia Immunizations	167	181	259
STD Clinic Clients	101	216	103
Blood Lead Tests	36	32	37
New Cases	9	7	12
Tuberculosis (TB) Tests	502	460	495
TB (Active and LTBI) Cases	-	6	7
Bright Smiles from Birth	63	72	153
Pregnancy Tests	16	9	4
Titers	65	95	84
Blood Draws	0	37	89
FIT Screenings	5	7	5
APRN Women's Health Exams	62	85	86
APRN Adult/Child Physicals	212	250	274

Appendix C: Environmental Health Division Data

	2022	2023	2024
Routine Food Inspections	993	934	870
Foodborne Investigations	28	60	34
Food Establishment Employee Training	95	152	142
Well Inspections	24	52	20
Water Samples Tested	250	384	388
Wastewater/Sewage Inspections	118	97	63
Loan Inspections	9	0	0
Nuisance Investigations	16	20	38
Solid Waste Inspections	34	31	26
Pool/Beach Inspections	108	98	116
Landfill Inspections	54	54	54

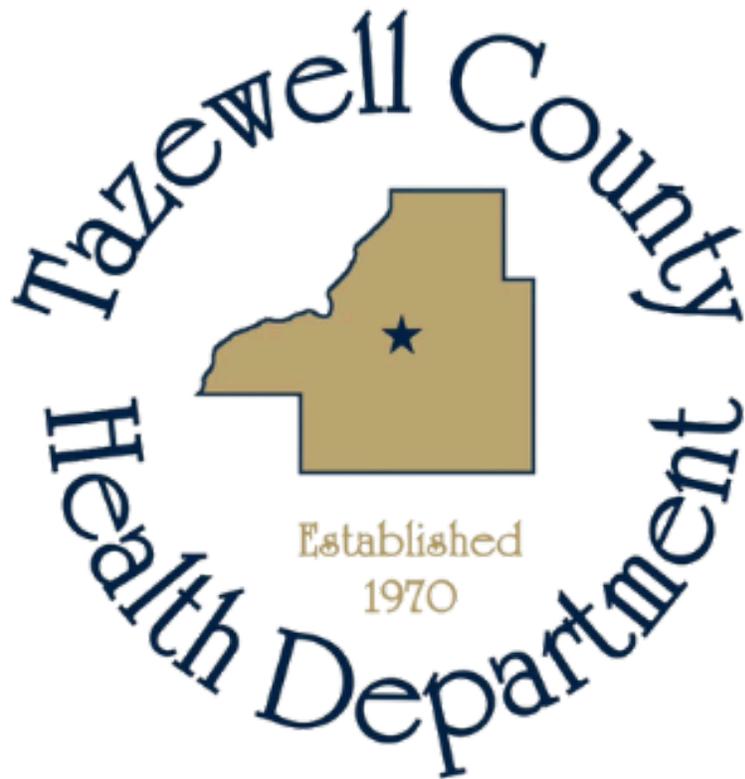
Appendix D: Community Program Data

	2022	2023	2024
21st Century Schools			
Schools Served	22	22	21
Total Enrollment	971	939	1097
Average Daily Attendance	239	306	222
Women's Health Programs			
Total Clients	563	506	545
Breast Cancer Diagnosed	7	6	4
Cervical Cancer Diagnosed	1	3	1
Illinois Wisewoman Program (IWP)	88	58	42
Illinois Tobacco Free Communities			
Complaints Received	4	3	17
Compliance Checks	80	112	118
New Tobacco Free Policies	1	6	1
Maturation Education Enrollment	664	512	543
Substance Use Prevention Enrollment	1332	1719	1388
Supporting Student Success (S3)			
Total Enrollment	24	18	26
Average Daily Attendance	14	13	17
Resource Referrals	138	33	98
Tazewell County Youth Board Students	34	30	30
Tazewell Teen Initiative Active Coalition Members	23	11	23
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Enrollment	556	376	521
Mental Health First Aid			
Adult Certifications	100	197	192
Youth Certifications	85	53	36
CPR Certifications	-	75	51
Fit & Strong			
Total Enrollment	-	32	13
Classes Held	-	48	22

Appendix E:

Birth to Five Division Data

	2022	2023	2024
Parents as Students	3	2	-
Active WIC Caseload (Average)	1205	1284	1506
Perinatal Referrals (APORS)	194	220	214
Car Seat Safety Checks	231	359	322
Car Seats Distributed	96	102	124
Home/In-Person Visits	976	1241	1008
Virtual Home Visits	760	300	0
Family Case Management Caseload (Average)	449	631	390
High Risk Infant Caseload (Average)	128	135	84
HealthWorks Caseload (Average)	282	256	212
Better Birth Outcomes Caseload (Average)	61	60	38
	2020	2021	2022
Total Births	1256	1299	1225
Births to Teen Mothers	59	57	56



TCHD LOCATIONS

-  TCHD - Tremont
21306 IL Route 9, Tremont, IL 61568
-  TCHD - Pekin
1800 Broadway St., Pekin, IL 61554

CONTACT US

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-  tazewellhealth.org
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