



2023

# 2023 Annual Report

LaSalle County Health Department  
717 E Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350



## **To the Residents of LaSalle County:**

It is an honor to present to you the LaSalle County Health Department's 2023 Annual Report of Services and Finance. The 2023 programs in the LaSalle County Health Department's Administrative, Environmental Health, and Personal Health divisions were offered to ensure that our mission statement to Promote Health and Prevent Disease was carried out.

The LaSalle County Health Department is a Certified Local Health Department that provides clinical and environmental services through the operation of various programs, services and partnerships for the last 37 years. The Health Department touches every county resident some way or another in their daily lives. Programs operated by the department monitor your drinking water and the food you eat, immunize adults and children to protect them from diseases, provide maternal and child healthcare services to pregnant women, infants and children with the goal of improving health outcomes, and promote overall wellness of the community.

2023 was an eventful year for the County. The Health Department kicked off 2023 in emergency response mode responding to the January 11<sup>th</sup> fire at Carus Chemical. The Health Department worked as a liaison with local, State and Federal agencies to help insure the health and environmental concerns of local residents were heard and addressed. The County, then sadly watched as one of their local hospitals closed its doors. St. Margaret's of Peru, formerly Illinois Valley Community Hospital (which formed from the merger of People's Hospital and St Mary's Hospital) officially closed on January 28<sup>th</sup> after serving the western side of the County for more than 100 years. After celebrating the end of the National Covid Emergency Orders in May, the status of health care services on the County suffered an additional loss when the parent hospital St. Margaret's Hospital – Spring Valley closed in June, temporarily shuttering the offices of the remaining health care professionals servicing the west side of the County. Additionally, the historic Hygienic Institute was closed after serving LaSalle County and neighboring areas since 1914. All of these closures put an immense strain on the County's healthcare systems. OSF has purchased the former St Margaret's- Peru and is in the process of re-establishing healthcare clinics and professionals in the area.

In 2023, the Health Department continued to work with our community partners to address the needs identified in our 2022 Illinois Plan for Local Assessments of Needs (IPLAN).

The identified health priorities identified and goals set include:

1. Healthy Behaviors
  - a. Increase the total activity reported by citizens in LaSalle County over the next 3 years.
  - b. Increase the community's reporting of consumption of fruits/vegetables to more than 2 servings per day.

2. Healthy Aging
  - a. Improve the health and wellbeing for older adults by
    - i. Increasing the number of participants in YMCA and Bridges
    - ii. Facilitate participation in events for older population
    - iii. Increase the number of rides for MASS and NCAT
3. Behavioral Health
  - a. Mental Health- Increase overall community understanding of Mental Health needs and services in the community
  - b. Substance Abuse – Reduce reported substance abuse in middle school and school students

Committees were established to develop and implement plans to address these needs to create a healthier LaSalle County.

This annual report gives the statistical and financial data for each program. We receive funding from state and federal grants, fees for service and county tax dollars. These funds allow LaSalle County Health Department to be able to continue to offer the same public health programs to its citizens. The tremendous dedication and commitment of the staff and the steady support of the Board of Health and the County Board provide a strong foundation allowing important public health services in LaSalle County to continue.

Sincerely,  
Chris Pozzi, B.S, LEHP, CPHA  
Public Health Administrator

## **2023 LaSalle County Board of Health**

**Lou Ann Carretto, President, County Board Member**

**Renae Gallagher, Vice President**

**Steven Gonzalo, Treasurer**

**Bruce Boaz, Secretary**

**Mark Benavides, DDS**

**Robert B. Maguire, MD**

**David Manigold, MD**

**Lori Janko Wilke**

### **Profile of LaSalle County**

Population estimate, 2022.....	108,078
Population % change, April 1, 2020 – July 1, 2022.....	-1.4%
Land Area sq. mi., 2020.....	1,135.16
Population per sq. mi., 2020 .....	96.6
Second largest geographic county in Illinois	
Percent of cropland .....	75.1
Total Acreage.....	726,488
Median Household	
Income, 2018- 2022 .....	67,942
Unemployment Rate, November 2023.....	4.6%
Median Age Estimate, 2022** .....	42.5
Births, 2022 Provisional .....	1,118
Deaths, 2022.....	1,383
Hospitals* .....	2



\*St. Margaret's Health-Peru Closed on 1/28/23

#### Sources:

US Bureau of Census

Illinois Department of Employment Security

US Department of Agriculture

Illinois Department of Public Health

2022 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates\*\*

# Administrative Division

Christine Pozzi, B.S., LEHP, CPHA

## Public Health Administrator

Responsibilities include administrative operations and execution of federal and state grants, submission and oversight of personnel management and media relations. The Administrative Division supports community understanding of health department services, serves as a resource for community needs assessments through health statistical data analysis and assures compliance with the Illinois Certified Local Health Department Code to maintain certified Health Department Status.

***Public Health Vision: Healthy People in Healthy Communities***

***Public Health Mission: Promote Health and Prevent Disease***

### ***Public Health:***

- Prevents epidemics and the spread of disease
- Protects against environmental hazards
- Prevents injuries
- Promotes and encourages healthy behaviors
- Responds to disasters and assists communities in recovery
- Assures the quality and accessibility of health services

### ***Essential Public Health Services:***

- Monitor health status to identify community problems
- Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community
- Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues
- Mobilize community partnerships and action to solve health problems
- Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts
- Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety
- Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable
- Assure an expert public health work force
- Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of health services
- Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

# Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2023

## (12/01/22- 11/30/23)

This report is based on unaudited financial records. An updated report will be posted when audited numbers become available.

<b>Balance on Hand (12/01/21)</b>	<b>\$5,214,542</b>
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### Revenue

A. Federal & State Grants*	\$1,217,332
B. Service Fees	303,309
C. Tax Levy	652,793
D. Interest	175,387
E. Misc. Income	22,873
F. Insurance Fund Transfer from County	19,814
TOTAL	<u>\$2,391,508</u>

### Expenses

A. Personnel	\$1,603,317
B. Benefits	558,350
C. Program Expenses	649,561
D. Transfer to County Funds	112,599
TOTAL	<u>\$2,923,827</u>

<b>Ending Balance (11/30/22)</b>	<b>\$4,682,223</b>
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# Environmental Health Division

Jennifer Osborn, B.S., L.E.H.P.  
Director of Environmental Health

## Food Sanitation Program

The Food Sanitation Program goal is the reduction of food borne illness through education to food service operators and consumers regarding safe food handling practices. All food service establishments are classified into risk categories based upon the type of menu served, the type of population served, the amount of food handling and/or the procedures of food handling being performed.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Food service establishments</b>	929	909	890	886	886
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	69	74	49	46	58
<b>Food complaints received</b>	94	84	33	50	83
<b>Routine food surveys</b>	1301	1,444	1,297	1,039	1576
<b>Follow-up surveys</b>	363	460	350	256	553
<b>Temporary food stand surveys</b>	175	160	143	27	176
<b>Food-borne illness investigations</b>	4	0	2	1	3
<b>Food safety training participants</b>	474	253	0	15	555
<b>Cottage food permits</b>	34	33	18	34	33

## Private Sewage Disposal Program

The Private Sewage Disposal Program goals are to minimize the risk of communicable disease transmission and to reduce adverse impacts upon the environment from improperly treated sewage effluent. The Private Sewage Disposal Program requires that all installations and/or repairs of individual sewage disposal systems be permitted and inspected by an Environmental Health Practitioner. Proposed subdivisions are also reviewed to ensure proper disposal of domestic sewage.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Total permits issued</b>	125	85	92	111	88
<b>Final construction surveys</b>	105	86	71	102	76
<b>Septic tank pumpers inspections</b>	15	13	22	19	16
<b>Sewage complaints</b>	43	34	26	20	42
<b>Training participants</b>	147	146	155	174	204

## Potable Water Program

The Potable Water Program goal is to assure water systems are properly located, constructed, and provide water satisfactory for consumption. Prior to construction of a new well, a permit from the Health Department is required to ensure protection of groundwater. Surveys and sampling of water well supplies are conducted upon suspected illness of waterborne diseases. Biennial surveys and routine sampling are performed on non-community public water supplies.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Total permits issued (well, sealing and geothermal)</b>	92	110	85	86	87
<b>Final construction surveys</b>	65	68	82	55	99
<b>Non-community water supplies Inspected</b>	72	60	63	55	61



<b>Non-community water supplies monitored</b>	108	107	113	111	113
<b>Number of water complaints</b>	52	88	75	52	70
<b>Training participants</b>	30	51	58	0	53

## Radon

The Radon grant provides property owners opportunities for free radon testing for their residence, as well as educational information on the effects of Radon, and remediation recommendations for high residential radon levels. This program was initiated in fall of 2019.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Consultations</b>	377	250	309	98	270
<b>Public Outreach Opportunities</b>	1	5	10	4	0
<b>Number of kits distributed</b>	249	217	296	93	25
<b>Number of Kits tested</b>	147	138	148	52	0
<b>Number with elevated results</b>	81	53	50	15	0

## Subdivision Review

The reviewing of Subdivision Plats goal is to assure that proposed developments are able to install water wells and private sewage disposal systems which meet current code requirements and protect the public's health.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Number of plats submitted</b>	0	0	0	0	0

## Tanning/Body Art Facility Inspection Program

The Tanning/Body Art Facility Inspection Program goal is to assure that the equipment and facilities are maintained. Environmental Health Practitioners conduct annual and if needed follow-up inspections on all licensed tanning beds and body art facilities located within LaSalle County.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Tanning &amp; Body Art facilities inspected</b>	23	29	25	29	29

## Emergency Preparedness Program

The Emergency Preparedness Program allows the Health Department to take an all-hazards approach in preventing, preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against all types of emergencies. We also oversee the Medical Reserve Corp for the county.

## LaSalle County Medical Reserve Corps

The LaSalle County Health Department oversees the LaSalle County Medical Reserve Corps. MRC volunteers include medical and non-medical LaSalle County Residents. The MRC participates in health fairs for public and private industry, teaches a variety of classes to better prepare the community such as first aid and Are You Ready training. Additionally, The MRC also oversees the LaSalle County Naloxone Program which trains law enforcement and other vital agencies to administer naloxone in the event of an opioid overdose. In 2018, the MRC continued to collaborate with the newly formed Substance Abuse Coalition for the County.

In 2020 the MRC's Naloxone Program recorded a record number of Narcan uses by participating agencies.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Current Number of Volunteers</b>	25	155	164	32	12
<b>Number of Volunteer Hours</b>	4	6.5	4,453	60	13

<b>Economic Value of Volunteer Hours</b>	114.16	194.68	\$159,066	\$1,482	\$358.95
<b>Narcan Participating Agencies</b>	24	19	19	19	19
<b>Number of Officers Trained</b>	65	4	26	5	42
<b>Number of School Personnel Trained</b>	49	*	*	*	*
<b>Number of Narcan Uses/ Administrations by Participating Agencies</b>	27	45	37	55	37

\*Data not tracked prior.

## Nuisance Control

The Nuisance Control program goal is to minimize possible injury associated with a potential public health nuisance condition. Upon citizen request, situations are investigated and corrective action is initiated when a nuisance condition appears to be a public health hazard.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Complaints received</b>	39	39	38	71	34

## Vector Control Program

The Vector Control Program is a grant funded program which allows the collection/testing of dead birds for West Nile virus, and mosquitoes for West Nile virus. Additionally, large quantities of mosquito larvicide are purchased with the funding and distributed to licensed mosquito control applicators from local municipalities and villages throughout the county. Larvicide is used to treat potential mosquito breeding sites. An annual educational campaign focuses on prevention and identifying potential breeding sites throughout the County. Identified sites are monitored and as needed, remediated. Presentations about mosquitoes and the potentially life-threatening diseases they can carry are given to students throughout the county.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Onsite surveys</b>	38	11	4	9	14
<b>Vector presentation participants</b>	18	17	0	2	540
<b>Mosquitoes Batches Tested for WNV (batch = 25-50 mosquitos)</b>	137	75	53	52	75
<b>Mosquito Batches Positive for WNV</b>	16	1	1	1	1
<b>Birds tested for WNV</b>	2	5	7	3	3
<b>Birds tested Positive WNV</b>	2	0	3	0	0

## Tick Surveillance Program

The Tick Surveillance Program is a grant funded program which allows for collection and identification through active surveillance. Active surveillance is used to determine whether a species of tick is established within a certain area. Tick specimens are collected by collecting tick drags.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Number of Tick Drags</b>	5	*	*	*	*
<b>Number of Ticks Sent for Identification</b>	1	*	*	*	*

\*Data not recorded.

## Tobacco Prevention Program

The Smoke-Free Illinois Act prohibits smoking in all indoor public places and places of employment. The law is designed to protect employees and the public from secondhand smoke. Complaints must be registered by calling a toll-free complaint line at 1-866-973-4646 or by going on-line to the Smoke-Free Illinois website at [www.smoke-free.illinois.gov](http://www.smoke-free.illinois.gov). These complaints will be handled by the Illinois Department of Public Health, local health departments, and local law enforcement agencies. According to the law, these agencies have been identified as enforcement agencies.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Complaints received</b>	5	7	1	7	5
<b>Citations issued</b>	0	2	3	2	6

## Communicable Disease Investigation

Infectious diseases continue to pose a significant threat to public health and mortality. The communicable disease program strives to decrease the spread of infectious diseases through surveillance, investigation, screening, education and follow-up.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Antibiotic Resistant Organisms</b>	1	2	0	1	2
<b>Bacterial Meningitis</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Campylobacter</b>	36	23	20	30	24
<b>Chicken Pox (Varicella)</b>	4	8	4	5	9
<b>COVID-19</b>	2,846	16,787	10,779	8,442	NA
<b>Cryptosporidiosis</b>	2	3	2	5	6
<b>Cyclosporiasis</b>	1	1	1	5	0
<b>E. Coli 0157:H7</b>	8	3	3	3	1
<b>Haemophilus Influenzae</b>	1	0	0	1	4
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	6	0	0	1	1
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	9	4	2	0	3
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	62	27	23	22	59
<b>Histoplasmosis</b>	7	0	6	3	2
<b>Influenza A &amp;/OR B Reportable</b>	2	9	0	22	20
<b>Legionella</b>	2	1	0	2	5

<b>Lyme Disease</b>	14	4	2	5	8
<b>Measles</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Mumps</b>	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Pertussis</b>	2	0	0	1	1
<b>Rabies PEP Required</b>	22	25	31	11	18
<b>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</b>	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Shigella</b>	1	5	1	0	0
<b>Salmonella</b>	19	15	20	8	12
<b>Invasive Strep Pneumonia &lt; 5 yrs. age</b>	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Strep Invasive Group A</b>	20	0	2	2	11
<b>West Nile Virus</b>	0	0	0	0	0

# Personal Health Division

Connie Brooks, R.N.

Director of Personal Health

## Family Case Management

The Family Case Management (FCM) Program offers case management services for pregnant women and children. The staff provide the following services: pregnancy testing, Emergency Medical Cards, monitoring of pregnancies and child development, management of pregnancies and infants, referrals, and home visits.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Average caseload per month</b>	405	152	118*	472	517
<b>Pregnancy tests</b>	23	28	49	30	53
<b>Temp. Medical Cards Issued</b>	29	24	54	16	52
<b>Home visits</b>	5	0	0**	133	287
<b>APORS Visits</b>	0	0	0**	109	242
<b>Face to face contacts</b>	980	0	0**	2,446	3,197

\*FCM program suspended January-May 2021

\*\* Suspended due to COVID-19 Pandemic

## Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides nutritional evaluations, counseling and education to eligible women, infants and children. The goal of WIC is to safeguard the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to the age of 5 who are at nutritional risk by providing nutritional foods to supplement diets, information on healthy eating, breastfeeding support, and referrals to health related and public assistance programs.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Participants certified</b>	1,706	2,189	2,794	1,076*	1,977
<b>Participants in nutrition/education classes</b>	2,738	2,485	2,290	1,523*	2,544
<b>Ave. monthly WIC participants</b>	1,318	1,326	1,383	1,319	1,323

\*Due to new IWIC system numbers for August-December 2020 are not available.

## HIV and HCV Testing

HIV and Hepatitis C testing is available at the Health Department by appointment, free of charge, for at risk individuals.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>HCV Tests</b>	1	8	0	9	34
<b>HCV (+) new</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>HIV Tests</b>	12	72	8	12	174
<b>HIV Positive (Newly Identified)</b>	2	0	5	4	3

## Immunizations

Immunizations - Low-cost childhood and adult immunizations are offered during scheduled clinics or by appointment.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Total Clients</b>	527	447	586	544	1,314



<b>Total immunizations provided</b>	1380	886	1,050	914	1,5325
<b>Flu Vaccines administered</b>	234	356	550	770	692

## Foreign Travel Reports

International Travel Recommendation Foreign travel reports are available for anyone traveling outside the United States. Reports are customized based on travel agenda, and include recommended vaccinations for international travel.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Travel recommendations</b>	9	11	2	5	40

## Tuberculosis Skin Testing

Tuberculosis Skin Testing - Low cost Tuberculin (TB) skin tests are offered Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Number of clients tested</b>	281	260	293	316	433
<b>Active TB cases</b>	0	0	1	1	3
<b>Positive reactors</b>	0	2	26	3	15
<b>Directly observed therapy</b>	0	0	2	2	1
<b>Suspect cases investigated</b>	83	19	11	7	2

## Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)

Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Reports are reviewed to assure clients have received recommended treatment. The Department is committed to working with all medical facilities and clients to assure treatment is adequate and according to CDC guidelines. Partner treatment is also encouraged.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Chlamydia</b>	218	261	245	291	348
<b>Gonorrhea</b>	47	53	69	65	75
<b>Syphilis</b>	17	5	3	6	7

## Health Promotion Presentations

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Health Fairs (participated in)</b>	10	6	2	0	12
<b>Personal hygiene/hand washing (participants)</b>	372	237	0	20	491
<b>Summer safety (participants)</b>	50	35	70	0	80
<b>IL Breast and Cervical Cancer</b>	1	0	2	2	Not reported

## Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program provides education regarding risk factors and how to conduct a self-breast exam. Mammograms, pap tests and diagnostic screenings are provided to all women ages 35-64, who are uninsured or underinsured.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Clients enrolled in IBCCP</b>	3,552	3,508	3,475	3,424	3,375
<b>Vouchers issued</b>	137	131	184	163	200
<b>Abnormal breast results</b>	17	25	51	33	43
<b>Breast cancer diagnosed</b>	1	3	0	4	2
<b>Abnormal pap smears</b>	1	0	0	1	2
<b>Cervical Cancer diagnosed</b>	0	0	0	0	0

## DNA Paternity Testing

Court ordered Paternity Testing is conducted at the Health Department. Testing is limited to court ordered testing. No voluntary requests for testing can be accepted.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Court Ordered Testing</b>	60	69	48	43	63

## COVID-19 Immunizations and Testing

Health Department staff and volunteers provided COVID-19 vaccines and testing to LaSalle County residents.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>Total COVID Vaccines Administered</b>	458	1903	26,825*	---	---
<b>Primary</b>	39	164	88**	---	---
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Dose</b>	7	138	49**	---	---
<b>Booster*</b>	277	1,599	475**	---	
<b>New Fall 2023</b>	130				

<b>Bridge Vaccine Prog.</b>	5				
<b>Total COVID Tests Performed</b>	29	1,623	4,358	3,701	---
<b>Send out PCR Test (No cost)</b>	0	341	25****	---	---
<b>Abbott BinaxNOW Rapid Antigen Test (No cost)</b>	8	921	834****	---	---
<b>Abbott IDNOW Rapid Molecular/ NAAT Test</b>	21	361	0****	---	---

\*This number encompasses all age eligible individuals and includes 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Booster Doses.

\*\*Tracking of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Booster Doses began in December 2021.

\*\*\*Fully Vaccinated means a person has received their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.

\*\*\*\*Tracking of individual type of COVID tests began in December 2021.

## **Revised Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2023 (12/01/22- 11/30/23)**

This report is based on audited financial records.

<b>Balance on Hand (12/01/22)</b>	<b>\$5,302,156</b>
Prior Period Adjustment by Auditors	192,522
<b>Adjusted Balance on Hand</b>	<b>\$5,494,678</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
A. Federal & State Grants	\$1,694,997
B. Service Fees	313,934
C. Tax Levy	653,178
D. Interest	188,184
E. Misc. Income	9,048
F. Insurance Fund Transfer from County	<u>19,814</u>
TOTAL	\$2,879,155
<b>Expenses</b>	
A. Personnel	\$1,623,005
B. Benefits	\$558,350
C. Program Expenses	726,012
D. Transfer to County Fund	<u>52,599</u>
TOTAL	\$2,959,966
<b>Ending Balance (11/30/23)</b>	<b>\$5,413,867</b>
<b>*Fund Use Balance - \$80,811</b>	