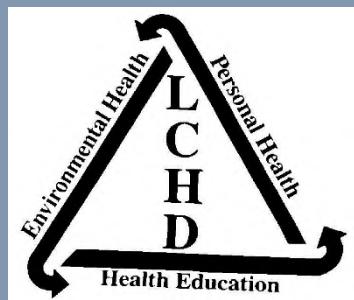




# 2024 Annual Report

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 2024 Annual Report of Services and Finance. The 2024 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 38 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.

In the 2024 year we saw our staff and residents emerge more from the Covid pandemic. With changes in the Covid reportable case definition, the Department ended Covid testing and reporting of Covid case numbers. Our last temporary Covid worker ended their employment in June of 2024. While the Covid pandemic is over, staff continue to monitor disease occurrences within the County, State, nation and world populations so that they are ready to respond.

In April, the County, excitedly watched as one of our local hospitals re-opened their doors as OSF – St Elizabeth's-Peru. Additional healthcare services continue to be brought back "online" to serve the western side of the County. In May, the Department partnered with the National Kidney Foundation to bring the Kidney Mobile to our community to offer screenings for kidney disease.

In 2024, 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 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 populations
- 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 high school students

Committees were established to develop and implement plans to address these needs to create a healthier LaSalle County. Additionally, we worked with OSF on the next Community Needs Assessment. Results of this assessment are still being tallied. Goals may need to be updated based on this Needs Assessment.

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

## 2024 LaSalle County Board of Health

**Lou Ann Carretto, President, County Board Member \*(January -November 2024)**

**Renae Gallagher, Vice President**

**Steven Gonzalo, Treasurer**

**Bruce Boaz, Secretary**

**Mark Benavides, DDS**

**Robert B. Maguire, MD**

**David Manigold, MD (President- December 2024)**

**Lori Janko Wilke**

**Ali Braboy (December 2024-)**

\*Retired November 30, 2024

### Profile of LaSalle County

Population estimate, July 1,2023.....	108,309
Population % change, April 1, 2020 – July 1, 2023 .....	-1.2%
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, 2019- 2023 .....	72,281
Unemployment Rate, November 2024 .....	5.0%
Median Age Estimate, 2023** .....	42.5
Births, 2023 Provisional.....	1,012
Deaths, 2023 Provisional .....	1,331
Hospitals* .....	3

\*OSF – St Elizabeth's-Peru opened on 4/7/24



#### Sources:

US Bureau of Census

Illinois Department of Employment Security

US Department of Agriculture

Illinois Department of Public Health

2023 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 2024

## (12/01/23- 11/30/24)

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

<b>Balance on Hand (12/01/23)</b>	<b>\$5,413,867</b>
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### **Revenue**

A. Federal & State Grants*	\$1,290,514
B. Service Fees	354,116
C. Tax Levy	637,489
D. Interest	210,259
E. Misc. Income	9,075
F. Insurance Fund Transfer from County	18,214
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,519,667</b>

### **Expenses**

A. Personnel	\$1,729,534
B. Benefits	627,455
C. Program Expenses	476,448
D. Transfer to County Funds	63,993
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,897,430</b>

<b>Ending Balance (11/30/24)</b>	<b>\$5,036,104</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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Food service establishments</b>	865	929	909	890	886
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	71	69	74	49	46
<b>Food complaints received</b>	64	94	84	33	50
<b>Routine food surveys</b>	1,312	1301	1,444	1,297	1,039
<b>Follow-up surveys</b>	320	363	460	350	256
<b>Temporary food stand surveys</b>	169	175	160	143	27
<b>Food-borne illness investigations</b>	3	4	0	2	1
<b>Food safety training participants</b>	443	474	253	0	15
<b>Cottage food permits</b>	42	34	33	18	34

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Total permits issued</b>	98	125	85	92	111
<b>Final construction surveys</b>	82	105	86	71	102
<b>Septic tank pumpers inspections</b>	16	15	13	22	19
<b>Sewage complaints</b>	46	43	34	26	20
<b>Training participants</b>	156	147	146	155	174

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Total permits issued (well, sealing and geothermal)</b>	95	92	110	85	86
<b>Final construction surveys</b>	87	65	68	82	55
<b>Non-community water supplies Inspected</b>	42	72	60	63	55

<b>Non-community water supplies monitored</b>	107	108	107	113	111
<b>Number of water complaints</b>	132	52	88	75	52
<b>Training participants</b>	52	30	51	58	0

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Consultations</b>	263	377	250	309	98
<b>Number of kits distributed</b>	202	249	217	296	93
<b>Number of Kits tested</b>	110	147	138	148	52
<b>Number with elevated results</b>	55	81	53	50	15

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Tanning &amp; Body Art facilities inspected</b>	28	23	29	25	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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Current Number of Volunteers</b>	11	25	155	164	32
<b>Number of Volunteer Hours</b>	21.5	4	6.5	4,453	60

<b>Economic Value of Volunteer Hours</b>	1,348.00	114.16	194.68	\$159,066	\$1,482
<b>Narcan Participating Agencies</b>	24	24	19	19	19
<b>Number of Officers Trained</b>	31	65	4	26	5
<b>Number of School Personnel Trained</b>	21	49	*	*	*
<b>Number of Narcan Uses/ Administrations by Participating Agencies</b>	23	27	45	37	55

\*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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Complaints received</b>	32	39	39	38	71

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Onsite surveys</b>	20	38	11	4	9
<b>Vector presentation participants</b>	12	18	17	0	2
<b>Mosquitoes Batches Tested for WNV (batch = 25-50 mosquitos)</b>	67	137	75	53	52
<b>Mosquito Batches Positive for WNV</b>	1	16	1	1	1
<b>Birds tested for WNV</b>	5	2	5	7	3
<b>Birds tested Positive WNV</b>	1	2	0	3	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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Number of Tick Drags</b>	8	5	*	*	*
<b>Number of Ticks Sent for Identification</b>	14	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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Complaints received</b>	8	5	7	1	7
<b>Citations issued</b>	3	0	2	3	2

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Antibiotic Resistant Organisms</b>	3	1	2	0	1
<b>Bacterial Meningitis</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Campylobacter</b>	21	36	23	20	30
<b>Chicken Pox (Varicella)</b>	7	4	8	4	5
<b>COVID-19</b>	813	2,846	16,787	10,779	8,442
<b>Cryptosporidiosis</b>	5	2	3	2	5
<b>Cyclosporiasis</b>	4	1	1	1	5
<b>E. Coli 0157:H7</b>	3	8	3	3	3
<b>Haemophilus Influenzae</b>	7	1	0	0	1
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	3	6	0	0	1
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	7	9	4	2	0
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	37	62	27	23	22
<b>Histoplasmosis</b>	9	7	0	6	3
<b>Influenza A &amp;/OR B Reportable</b>	8	2	9	0	22
<b>Legionella</b>	0	2	1	0	2

<b>Lyme Disease</b>	11	14	4	2	5
<b>Measles</b>	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Mumps</b>	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Pertussis</b>	2	2	0	0	1
<b>Rabies PEP Required</b>	25	22	25	31	11
<b>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever</b>	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Shigella</b>	3	1	5	1	0
<b>Salmonella</b>	27	19	15	20	8
<b>Invasive Strep Pneumonia &lt; 5 yrs. age</b>	1	1	0	0	0
<b>Strep Invasive Group A</b>	12	20	0	2	2
<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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Average caseload per month</b>	306	405	152	118*	472
Pregnancy tests	28	23	28	49	30
<b>Temp. Medical Cards Issued</b>	28	29	24	54	16
Home visits	61	5	0	0**	133
<b>APORS Visits</b>	0	0	0	0**	109
<b>Face to face contacts</b>	2,459	980	0	0**	2,446

\*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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Participants certified</b>	1,627	1,706	2,189	2,794	1,076*
<b>Participants in nutrition/education classes</b>	3,061	2,738	2,485	2,290	1,523*
<b>Ave. monthly WIC participants</b>	1,369	1,318	1,326	1,383	1,319

\*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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>HCV Tests</b>	0	1	8	0	9
<b>HCV (+) new</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>HIV Tests</b>	51	12	72	8	12
<b>HIV Positive (Newly Identified)</b>	3	2	0	5	4

## Immunizations

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

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Total Clients</b>	571	527	447	586	544
<b>Immunizations provided</b>	1,160	1380	886	1,050	914

<b>Flu Vaccines administered</b>	205	234	356	550	770
<b>Total COVID Vaccines Administered</b>	123	458	1903	26,825*	---

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

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Travel recommendations</b>	16	9	11	2	5

## Tuberculosis Skin Testing

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

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Number of clients tested</b>	205	281	260	293	316
<b>Active TB cases</b>	1	0	0	1	1
<b>Positive reactors</b>	0	0	2	26	3
<b>Directly observed therapy</b>	1	0	0	2	2
<b>Suspect cases investigated</b>	64	83	19	11	7

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Chlamydia</b>	220	218	261	245	291
<b>Gonorrhea</b>	34	47	53	69	65
<b>Syphilis</b>	13	17	5	3	6

## Health Promotion Presentations

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Health Fairs (participated in)</b>	21	10	6	2	0
<b>Personal hygiene/hand washing (participants)</b>	403	372	237	0	20
<b>Summer safety (participants)</b>	60	50	35	70	0
<b>IL Breast and Cervical Cancer</b>	4	1	0	2	2

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Clients enrolled in IBCCP</b>	3,608	3,552	3,508	3,475	3,424
<b>Vouchers issued</b>	146	137	131	184	163
<b>Abnormal breast results</b>	20	17	25	51	33
<b>Breast cancer diagnosed</b>	0	1	3	0	4
<b>Abnormal pap smears</b>	1	1	0	0	1
<b>Cervical Cancer diagnosed</b>	0	0	0	0	0

## Elevated Blood Lead Level Screening Program

Elevated blood lead level screenings are offered to clients in all of our programs who are eligible for testing. Clients with confirmed elevated blood lead levels will be offered case management services, home inspections, and necessary referrals. While there is no charge to clients for testing, a client will be required to bring their insurance card for billing purposes.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Capillary Tests Completed</b>	2	*	*	*	*
<b>Home Visits Completed</b>	11	*	*	*	*

\*Program began October, 2024.

## 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.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Court Ordered Testing</b>	29	60	69	48	43

# Revised Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2024

## (12/01/23- 11/30/24)

This report is based on audited financial records.

**Balance on Hand (12/01/23)                    \$5,413,867**

### **Revenue**

A. Federal & State Grants	\$1,161,687
B. Service Fees	357,911
C. Tax Levy	655,780
D. Interest	228,223
E. Misc. Income	4217
F. Insurance Fund Transfer from County	18,214
G. Non Cash Vaccines	67,709
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,493,741</b>

### **Expenses**

A. Personnel	\$1,772,003
B. Benefits	628,242
C. Program Expenses (includes Rent)	562,811
D. Transfer to County Funds	63,993
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,027,049</b>

**Ending Balance (11/30/24)                    \$4,880,559**