

# Nassau County Department of Health

200 COUNTY SEAT DRIVE, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

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**Prevent. Promote. Protect**

## 2024 Impact Report

**Irina Gelman, DPM, PhD, MPH**

**Commissioner of Health**



**December 2025**



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## BOARD OF HEALTH

The Nassau County Board of Health and the Nassau County Department of Health were created in 1938 by the Nassau County Charter.

Members of the Board of Health (hereafter referred to as the “Board”) are appointed by the County Executive to five-year terms. The Board enforces the New York State Public Health Law as well as New York State and local sanitary codes.

The Board is authorized to:

- Prescribe the duties of and direct the Commissioner of Health.
- Make and publish orders and regulations for the preservation of life and health.
- Create orders and regulations for the supervision of nuisances and other matters detrimental to public health.
- Restrain by injunction violators of its orders and regulations.
- Issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses, and administer oaths and compel testimony.
- Issue warrants to peace officers to enforce the law.
- Prescribe and impose penalties for violations of, or failure to comply with, its orders or regulations or any of the regulations of the state sanitary code.

Inquiries to the Nassau County Board of Health can be addressed to:

Ellen J. Braunstein, MD, Chair  
Nassau County Board of Health  
c/o Nassau County Department of Health  
200 County Seat Drive, Mineola, NY 11501

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH VISION

The Nassau County Department of Health will lead a public health system that works to create healthy communities.

### Values

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Respect
- Dedication
- Innovation

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MISSION

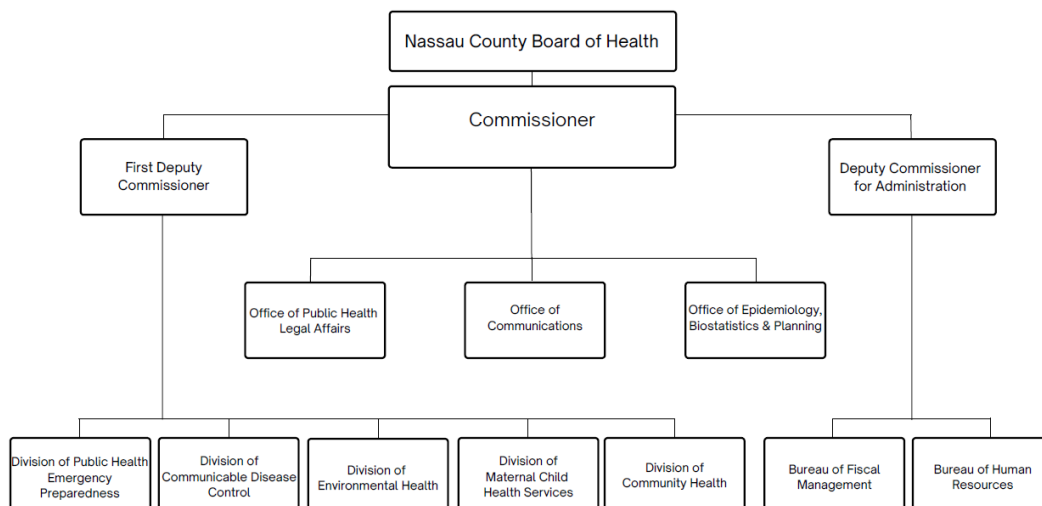
Nassau County Department of Health promotes and protects the health of all who live, work, and play in Nassau County.

The mission is accomplished through direct services and community partnerships in the following areas:

- Development and maintenance of individual and community preparedness for public health hazards and events.
- Investigation, prevention, and control of communicable diseases.
- Prevention of environmental health hazards through assessment, regulation, and remediation.
- Promotion of healthy lifestyles through outreach and education.
- Provision for evaluation and services to individuals, children, and families that have developmental delays and concerns.

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

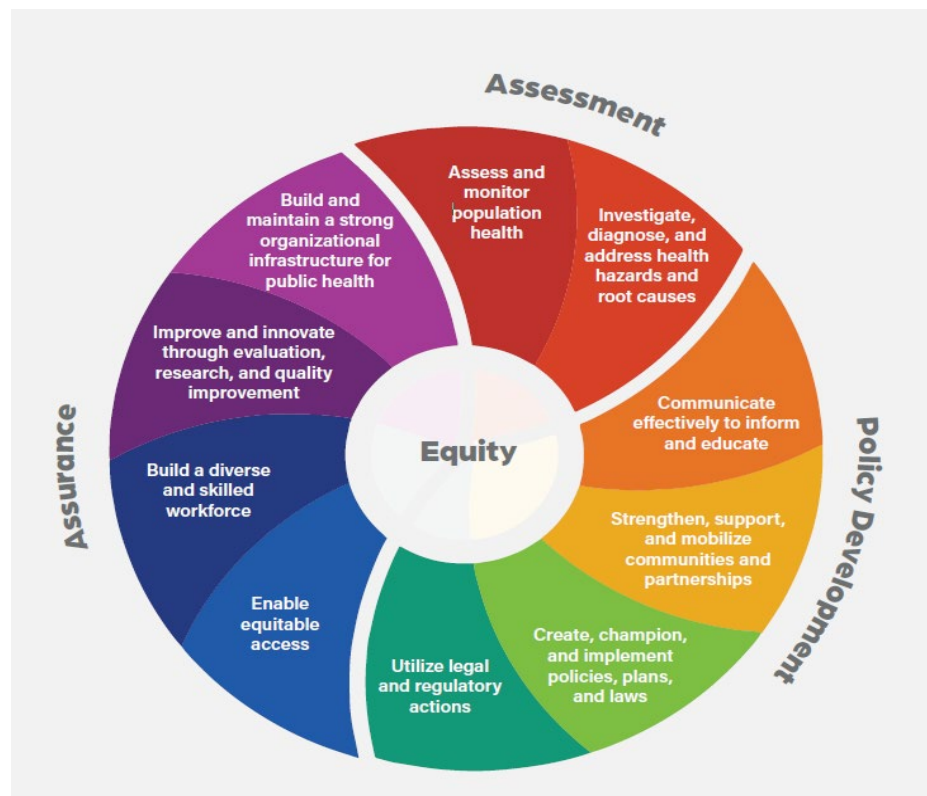
- The Board of Health is the governing body of Nassau County Health Department (NCDOH), overseeing the Commissioner of Health. Three offices report directly to the Commissioner: the Office of Communications, the Office of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Planning, and the Office of Public Health Legal Affairs. The Divisions of Communicable Disease Control, Community Health, Environmental Health, Maternal Child Health Services, and Public Health Emergency Preparedness are under the leadership of the First Deputy Commissioner of Health. The Deputy Commissioner for Administration oversees the Bureau of Fiscal Management and the Bureau of Human Resources.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

### CONTINUED REACCREDITATION EFFORTS AND SUBMISSION!

In 2017 NCDOH was granted accreditation status by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), a national organization which evaluates local health departments based on 10 Essential Public Health Services. Accreditation status is valid for 5 years after which, re-application is necessary. In 2023, NCDOH began the process of applying for Reaccreditation. This was an extensive, rigorous process of gathering and submitting documentation to demonstrate satisfactory fulfillment of the 10 Essential Public Health Services, depicted in the graphic on the next page. There were 10 domains comprised of 55 measures in the Standards and Measures for Reaccreditation that needed to be addressed. This resulted in more than 400 documents. The Department submitted Reaccreditation in Fall 2024. PHAB reviewed the application in 2024 and expect a site visit early 2025. <https://phaboard.org/accreditation-recognition/reaccreditation/>



**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #1**

Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #2**

Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #3**

Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #4**

Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #5**

Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #6**

Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #7**

Assure an effective system that enables equitable access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #8**

Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #9**

Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement

**ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE #10**

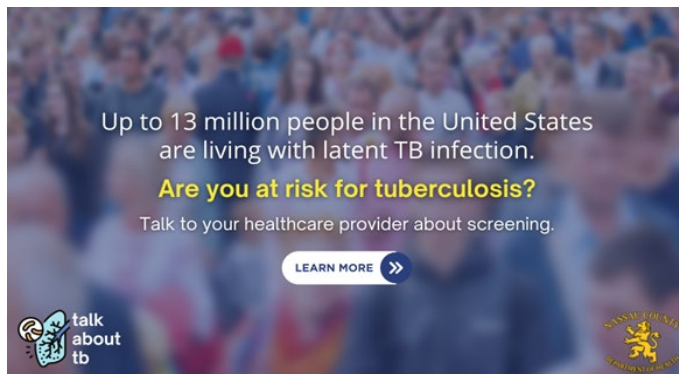
Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health

## NCDOH WAS AWARDED A GRANT FROM NACCHO!

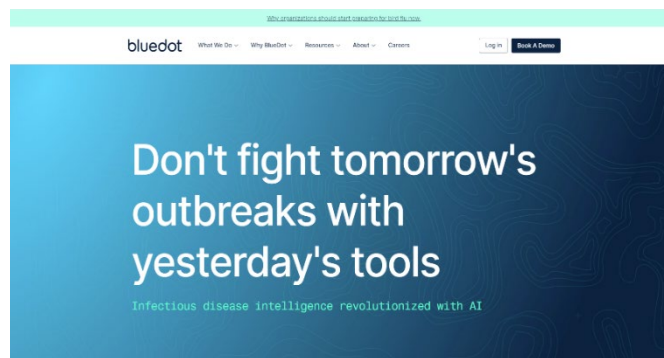
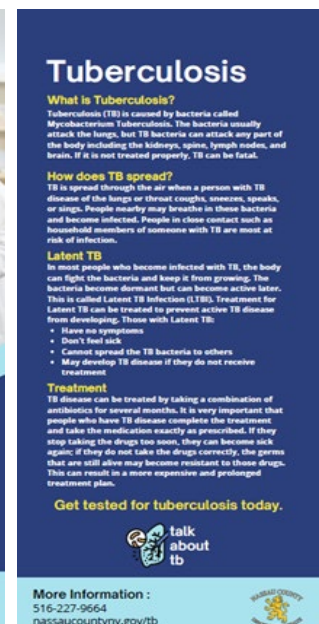
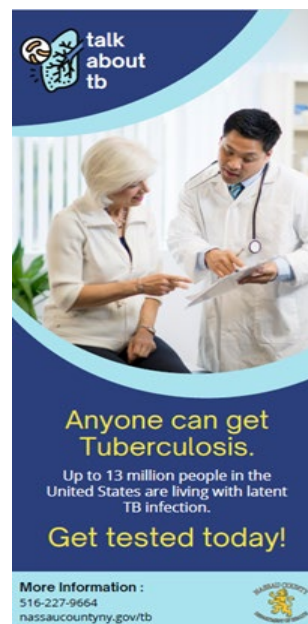
In 2024, the Nassau County Department of Health was awarded a grant *Infectious Disease Outbreaks- Enhancing Forecasting and Analytics Capabilities for Local Health Departments (LHD's)* from NACCHO. Talk about TB: A Forecasting, Outreach and Media Campaign was an interdisciplinary effort within the Department including the Office of Communications, Office of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Planning, and the Division of Community Outreach.

### Goal:

Using TB as a framework, the Department aimed to improve its capacity to forecast disease outbreaks using models and AI, promote disease awareness, create appropriate educational materials, provide a media campaign, and conduct community outreach.



- Grant funding allowed the Department to purchase a subscription to BlueDot, a global surveillance system using media and online sources to provide early detection of global disease pressures through an alert system.
- BlueDot also provides historical as well as projected flight information to help determine the likelihood of disease importation.
- Facilitated Nassau County DOH's ability to monitor global trends and conduct local risk assessments.
- Media campaigns including social media and bus ads were developed.
- Outreach connected at risk individuals to care.
- NCDOH employees from the Office of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Planning and the Office of Communications attended a NACCHO 2024 Preparedness Summit Pre Workshop and Conference in Cleveland, Ohio from March 24, 2024, through March 28, 2024.



## BUREAU OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The chart below depicts the Department's total number of employees, full-time and part-time, for the year 2023 and 2024, and whether they were paid on the general fund or the grant fund. Employee counts remained mostly stable from 2023 to 2024. For 2024, the Department continued to have additional staff provided by the NYS Public Health Corps Fellowship Program and PHIG (Public Health Infrastructure Grant). During the summer months, the Department also utilizes seasonal workers (not reflected in the chart below) to assist with program work in the Division of Environmental Health.

### NCDOH Employee Breakdown

	Year Ending 2023	Year Ending 2024	Net Change
<b>Full-time</b>	206	206	0
<b>General Fund</b>	173	173	0
<b>Grant Fund</b>	33	33	0
<b>Part-time</b>	12	11	-1
<b>General Fund</b>	11	10	-1
<b>Grant Fund</b>	1	1	1

	Year Ending 2023	Year Ending 2024	Net Change
<b>Total Employees (Full-time + part-time)</b>	218	217	-1

The following charts illustrate the variance between both actual and budgeted full-time employees and part-time employees as of December 2024. The Department had a total of 15 more full-time budgeted positions than actual full-time positions filled. These positions were on the general fund. There were 5 more part-time budgeted positions than actual full-time positions filled. These positions were on the general fund. All grant-funded positions full-time and part-time positions were filled.

### 2024 Full-Time Employees

	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>General Fund</b>	173	188	-15
<b>Grant Fund</b>	33	33	0
<b>Total</b>	206	221	-15

### 2024 Part-Time Employees

	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>General Fund</b>	10	15	-5
<b>Grant Fund</b>	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	11	16	-5

NCDOH offered training sessions in the areas of Human Resources, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Information Technology. There were 921 attendances at these training.

## BUREAU OF FISCAL MANAGEMENT

The Bureau of Fiscal Management oversees the Health Department's budget. The Health Department's budget for 2024 was 206.91 million dollars. It also manages grants and interacts with other programs within the Health Department as well as other Nassau County agencies.

- Purchasing
- Accounts Payable
- Accounts Receivable
- Grant Management
- Contract Processing
- Early Intervention & Preschool programs
- State Aid Article 6 funding

## OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH LEGAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Public Health Legal Affairs provides legal counsel to the Department enabling our Offices and Divisions to best serve the public health needs of our community within our scope of public health legal authority. Various services provided by this Office include:

- Prosecuting enforcement actions under the New York State Public Health Law, New York State Sanitary Code, New York State Environmental Conservation Laws, and Local County Laws at administrative hearings.
- Drafting Departmental Policies, Commissioner's Orders, and local public health ordinances.
- Training all staff members on HIPAA and confidentiality issues during onboarding process and refresher sessions.
- Responding to subpoenas and Freedom of Information Law requests.
- Conducting legislative review for purposes of evaluating potential impacts on laws on public health efforts, response, and protection of our residents.
- Assisting staff with archiving documents and other materials.
- Communication With Legislative/Judicial Branches.
- Assisting the Department in complying with litigation holds.
- Assist staff with drafting contracts, DUAs (data user agreements), and MOUs (memoranda of understanding).



# OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Office of Communications plans, organizes, and implements the Department’s public information activities in order to provide timely information to the public. This Office interfaces with all Divisions within the NCDOH. In addition, the Office is responsible for writing and distributing all NCDOH press releases, coordinating press conferences, requests for interviews, issuing statements to the media and developing public health campaigns.

- Established new Department telephone system communications tree to more efficiently and effectively direct calls – routes directly to program staff.
- Developed a library of NCDOH produced and branded materials on a variety of health topics along with the Division of Community Health.
- Coordinated the Departmental notification responses such as provider-falsified immunizations records, measles exposure, and rabies positive feral cats.
- Maintained website development and updates.
- Involvement in NACCHO grant, detailed in Highlights.
- Designed brochures and promotional materials for Talk About TB ad campaign, Gestational Diabetes, NCDOH Service Guide, and Social Determinants of Health Infographic.
- Created NCDOH Facebook and Instagram accounts, with over 1200 Facebook followers and 135 Instagram Followers by the end of the year.

## Gestational Diabetes

Gestational diabetes happens when your body can't make enough insulin during your pregnancy and causes your glucose (blood sugar) levels to rise.

**Risk Factors**

You're at higher risk for gestational diabetes if you:

- Had gestational diabetes during a previous pregnancy.
- Have given birth to a baby who weighed over 9 pounds.
- Are overweight.
- Have a family history of type 2 diabetes.
- Have a hormone disorder called polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).
- Are an African American, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander person.

**Treatment**

If you have a diagnosis of gestational diabetes, go to all your prenatal appointments, and follow your treatment plan, including:

- Checking your blood sugar to make sure your levels stay in a healthy range.
- Staying active during your pregnancy, this makes the insulin your body makes work more efficiently
- Eating healthy food in the right amounts at the right times
- Taking medication correctly if prescribed by your doctor.

Gestational diabetes usually goes away after pregnancy, but it may increase your risk of developing diabetes later in life. It can also increase your risk of postpartum depression. Patients usually won't have symptoms so your doctor will do blood testing usually around 24-28 weeks gestation.

**BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN**  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**Nassau County Department of Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### Nassau County Department of Health Service Guide

Nassau County Department of Health	327-4447
Main Reception	327-4447
Air Services Emergencies	743-8184
Adult Immunization Control	327-4444
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention	327-4444
Children's Center	327-4717
Communicable Diseases	327-4444
Communicable Disease Control	327-4444
Community Outreach	327-4444
County Commissioner's Office of Development Affairs	375-0100
Emergency Water	327-4444
Early Intervention	327-4444
Emergency Response	327-4444
Food Safety	327-4717
Health Equity	327-4444
Healthcare	375-0100
Health Services Center	327-4444
Hot & Cold Control	327-4444

**BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN**  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Administrative Information	327-4444
Medical Records Dept.	327-4447
Measles Surveillance	327-4444
Nassau University Medical Center	327-4444
General Information	327-4444
Emergency Care	327-4444
Immunization	327-4444
Old Town Reception and Administration	327-4444
Residential Compliance	327-4717
Student Control	327-4717
Swimming/Boating Compliance	327-4717
Tobacco & Vaping Program	327-4717
Trip Surveillance	327-4444
Tuberculosis Control	327-4444
Wells, Septic & Cisterns (WSSC)	327-4444
General Number	327-4444

**Nassau County Department of Health**  
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Garden City, NY 11530  
516-333-4447  
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9 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

**DR. IRINA GELMAN**  
NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN**  
NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## PUBLIC HEALTH CAMPAIGN: TALK ABOUT TB

In 2024, NCDOH embarked on a health campaign to raise awareness of tuberculosis (TB). Efforts were made to educate the public about the disease and encourage testing. A TB bus ad “Are you at risk for tuberculosis?” was installed in 125 Nassau County NICE buses. Additional TB information materials were created and distributed at Community Events.



### Tuberculosis

#### Who should be tested for Tuberculosis?

- People who were born in, traveled to, or resided in a country with high rates of TB for at least 1 month. Includes anywhere other than the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and western or northern Europe.
- Groups with high rates of TB transmission, such as homeless persons, injection drug users, and persons with HIV infection.
- People who take medications that weaken the immune system and/or with medical conditions that weaken the immune system, such as diabetes, Crohn's disease, cancer, and kidney disease.
- Close contacts of a person with infectious TB disease.
- People who work or reside in facilities or institutions with people who are at high risk for TB, such as hospitals, homeless shelters, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and residential homes for those with HIV.
- Children with frequent exposure to adults at high risk of TB infection.



Adapted with permission from Washington County Health Department, ME.


**More Information:**  
516-227-9664  
nassaucountyny.gov/tb



### Tuberculosis


#### ¿Quién debe hacerse la prueba de infección tuberculosa latente (LTBI)?

- Personas que nacieron, viajaron, o residieron en un país con altas tasas de tuberculosis por al menos de 1 mes. Incluye cualquier lugar excepto Estados Unidos, Canadá, Australia, Nueva Zelanda y partes occidental o norte de Europa.
- Grupos con altas tasas de transmisión de tuberculosis, como personas sin hogar, usuarios de drogas inyectables y personas con infección por VIH.
- Personas que toman medicamentos que debilitan el sistema inmunitario y/o con afecciones médicas que debilitan el sistema inmunitario, como diabetes, enfermedad de Crohn, cáncer y enfermedad renal.
- Contactos cercanos de una persona con enfermedad infecciosa de tuberculosis.
- Personas que trabajan o residen en instalaciones o instituciones con personas con alto riesgo de contraer tuberculosis, como hospitales, refugios para personas sin hogar, centros correccionales, hogares de ancianos y hogares residenciales para personas con VIH.
- Niños con exposición frecuente a adultos con alto riesgo de infección por tuberculosis.



Adapted with permission from Washington County Health Department, ME.

**Más información:**  
516-227-9664  
nassaucountyny.gov/tb




**PUBLIC HEALTH CAMPAIGN: RABIES SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM**

Beginning in July 2024, Nassau County had its first rabies case in a feral cat. This marked the beginning of an uptick in rabies in feral cats and raccoons. As a result, the Department responded by informing the public through numerous press releases and educational materials.

**What You Need to Know About Rabies**

- Rabies affects the nervous system, leading to brain disease and even death
- There are roughly **4,000 reported animal cases** of rabies in the US annually
- But, there are **fewer than 10 reported human cases**

Rabies is **preventable** by **vaccinating** your pets



Nassau County DOH investigates all reported animal bites. Nassau County Public Health law requires that pets be vaccinated against rabies. This includes, but is not limited to, dogs, cats, and ferrets. The Department encouraged the public to get their pets vaccinated against rabies to ensure their safety and prevent spread. Pets can get vaccinated at almost any animal hospital or veterinary clinic. To date, there have been no reports of rabies in domesticated animals.

**Who is at risk?**

**Those who:**

- Travel globally
- Have jobs with animals
- Partake in outdoor activities (camping, hunting, etc.)



**Signs of Rabies**

**Animals that:**

- Show unusual aggression
- Drool more than normal
- Appear tamer than expected
- Are staggering or paralyzed



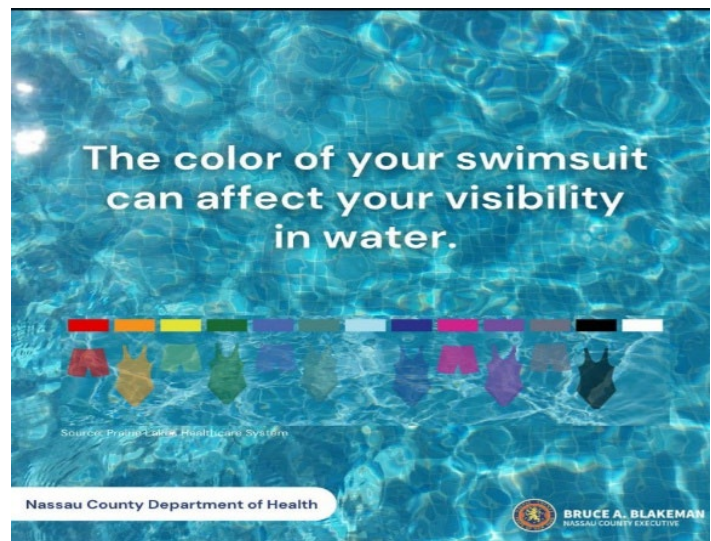
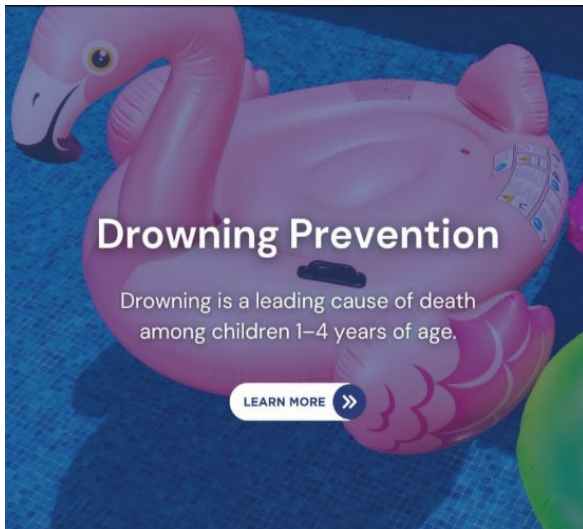

## **PUBLIC HEALTH CAMPAIGN: DROWNING PREVENTION**

In the summer of 2024, Nassau Department of Health embarked on a Drowning Prevention Campaign through social media. The Department raised awareness on swimming and pool safety and shared these important tips through social media.



### How you can prevent drowning:

- Learn basic swimming and water safety skills
- Build fences that fully enclose pools
- Supervise closely
- Wear a life jacket
- Learn CPR
- Know the risks of natural waters
- Avoid alcohol
- Use the buddy system
- Take additional precautions for medical conditions
- Consider the effects of medications
- Don't hyperventilate or hold your breath for a long time



## OFFICE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, BIostatISTICS, AND PLANNING

The mission of the Office of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Planning is to describe, evaluate, and inform programming, priorities and improve community health outcomes through data-driven decision making. This is accomplished using diverse data sources, analysis, and visualization of data.

- Reaccreditation Efforts – The Office played a major role in in the creation and coordination of Reaccreditation materials.
- Staff participated in the NACCHO grant
- Staff created various dashboards, including Respiratory, Heat, Cannabis, Motor Vehicle, Asthma

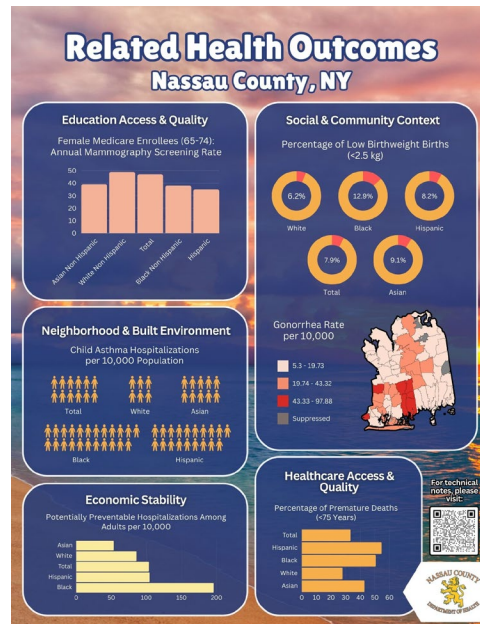
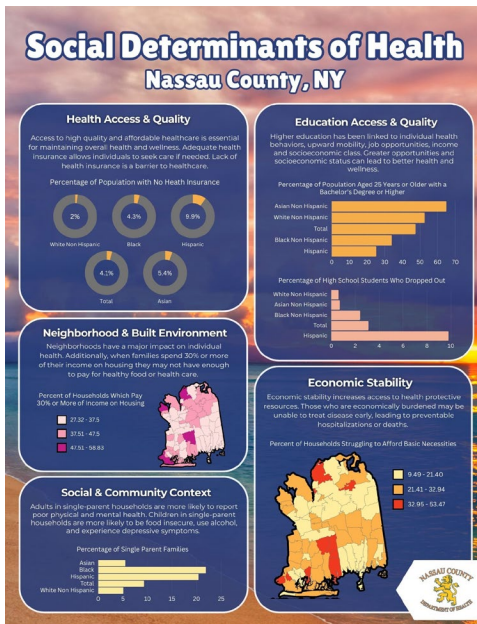
### Data Dashboards:

Dashboards offer a means of visualizing data in public health that can highlight important patterns, guide quality-improvement efforts, and improve health outcomes.

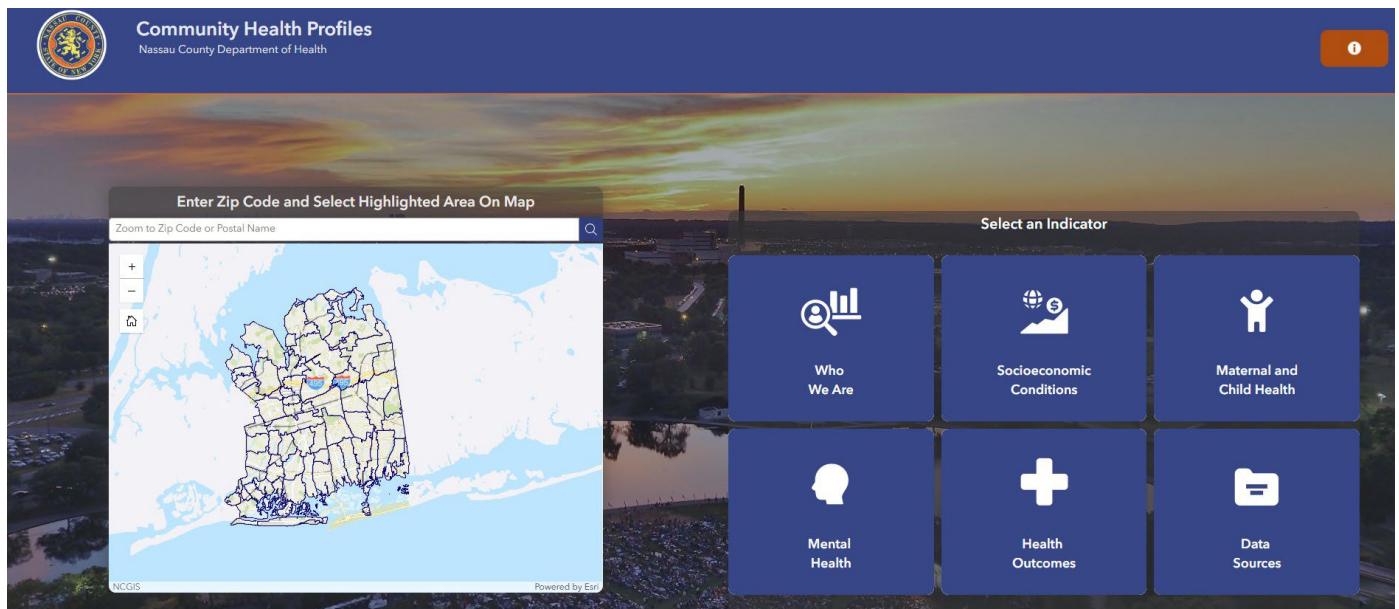


- Through the NACCHO grant, the Office acquired BlueDot, an infectious disease forecasting tool, used to predict global outbreaks of disease.
  - The Office conducted an analysis of potential disease spread during the T20 Cricket World Cup.
- Social Determinants of Health Story Map and Infographic was developed and presented to stakeholders.





- The Office began work on constructing Community Health Profiles, a mechanism by which one can select their community to find out information about select health indicators.



- NCDOH contracted with Stony Brook Center of Clean Water Technology to analyze wastewater samples from Nassau County's sewersheds, testing wastewater for opioids, stimulants and select pathogens.
- A new Performance Management System using Socrata to assess objectives, goals, and other performance metrics departmentwide was instituted.
- The Office began planning for the next CHA and CHIP assessment.
- Staff participated in programmatic training, such as GIS, R, Power BI, BlueDot, and REDCap.

## DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

The Division of Communicable Disease Control protects the public from the spread of diseases through surveillance, investigation, intervention, and education. It is comprised of four Bureaus – Tuberculosis Control, STD/HIV Control, and Perinatal Hepatitis B and Immunization, and Disease Control.

- Bureau of Disease Control
  - Approximately 4,050 communicable diseases (not including influenza or COVID-19) were reported and confirmed.
  - One confirmed case of measles and contact investigation.
  - Twenty cases of West Nile Virus.
  - Responded to pertussis, listeria, and varicella outbreaks.
- Bureau of Perinatal Hepatitis B and Immunization
  - Managed Departmental response to Baldwin Midwifery falsifying immunization records.
    - 1,500 children affected – mandated exclusions.
    - Fielded phone calls from parents, providers, and school districts.
      - Provided NYSDOH email to report fraud: [stopvaxfraud@health.ny.gov](mailto:stopvaxfraud@health.ny.gov)
- Bureau of TB Control
  - 48 TB confirmed cases, 214 contacts identified, 34 LTBI confirmed cases.
  - Virtually attended NYC World TB Day.
  - New TB Video DOT (directly observed therapy) platform.
    - Live and asynchronous video DOT of patient record taking meds, send via the secure platform. This allows for DOT 7 days per week and during non-business hours.
- Bureau of STD/HIV Control
  - 203 Early Syphilis cases
  - 111 newly diagnosed HIV cases
  - 964 Gonorrhea cases
  - 4,469 Chlamydia cases
  - 6 MPOX cases
  - 3 Congenital syphilis cases



## DIVISION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

The mission of the Division of Community Health is to engage the community with the Department's services and resources and information about public health. The Division is working to partner with different internal and external stakeholders to provide multiple services for the residents of Nassau County.

- Let's Discuss series – video recordings on various topics including diabetes, healthcare access, mental health, and cardiovascular health.
- Hosted 2 Community Baby Showers.
- 2024 Conference on Health Equity and Poverty Simulations.
- Home to the Community Health Resource Center – Food pantry, clothing pantry, diaper and formula bank, commodity food supplement program.
- Community Health Connections Resource Fair.
- Annual Backpack Distribution Event with Office of Hispanic Affairs – provided 200 healthy snack packs.
- Health information cards – self reported prescription and health information on one convenient card.
- Community Resource Committee established. FindHelp platform procured to assist the public in finding resources.



## DIVISION OF MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

The Division of Maternal Child Health Services is comprised of the following: Office of Children with Special Needs, which contains Early Intervention and the Preschool Program, Women, Infants, and Children's Program (WIC), Hewlett House, Childhood Fatality Review Team, Cribs for Kids, and the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.

Early Intervention (EI) is a voluntary developmental evaluation and services program offered by New York State and administered locally by the Nassau County Department of Health Office for Children with Special Needs. To be eligible for services, children must be under 3 years of age and have a confirmed disability or established developmental delay.

The Preschool Special Education Program provides services to children who are 3 to 5 years old with developmental delays and/or educational needs. Eligibility is based on the results of a multi-disciplinary evaluation that is at no direct cost to the family.



Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) provides an EBT card for food and formula as well as peer counseling to support breastfeeding women, and nutrition education for eligible pregnant/post-partum women, infants and children.

Hewlett House is a community resource center dedicated to the education and support of all cancer patients and their families at every stage of their treatment.



Cribs for Kids is a national Infant Safe Sleep Initiative, with the mission of providing a safe-sleep education program for parents and caregivers which includes the intervention of a safety-approved crib if the family cannot otherwise afford one.

The mission of the Child Fatality Review team is to review child deaths to better understand the causes of these deaths and to make recommendations based on the team's findings to reduce future child fatalities.



The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides medical case management for children with elevated blood-lead levels. It works in close partnership with Environmental Health to identify and abate hazards.

- New WIC site in Glen Cove – opened in 2024
- WIC began holding a breastfeeding support group twice monthly at the Community Health Resource Center
- EI Hub – new platform reporting data for EI – yearly roll-out, many challenges, all staff trained
- EI Ongoing Service Coordination Training LIU – 100 providers trained
- NYSDOH audited EI Programs in May with high marks
- Nearly 170 newly identified children with blood lead levels greater than or equal to 5.0 mcg/dl in 2024
- Breast Cancer Awareness Breakfast raised \$3,110
  - \$1555 each to Hewlett House and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

## DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Since 2002, the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) cooperative agreement has provided assistance to public health departments across the nation. This helps health departments build and strengthen their abilities to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events. Preparedness activities funded by the PHEP cooperative agreement specifically target the development of emergency-ready public health departments that are flexible and adaptable.

- Continuation of the Homebound Vaccination Program – COVID-19 vaccines.
- Conducted Access Blue Full-Scale Point of Dispensing (POD) Exercise. The goal of the exercise was to test the ability to provide equitable services to all clients. There were both successes and opportunities for improvements that will be incorporated into future PODs.



- As of end of 2024, there were 1,649 active MRC members.
- Provided medical support at the Long Island Marathon on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A total of 64 MRC volunteers and NCDOH employees staffed the event.



- Long Island Games Physically Challenged, May 31-June 1. Approximately 1,200 athletes and 600 (non-medical) volunteers participated in the event. No major incidents occurred.
- The Long Island Fair occurred from September 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>. The event was staffed by 22 NCDOH employees, 21 MRC volunteers, and the Nassau County Emergency Ambulance Bureau.

- Collaborated with NUMC and NCPD Homeland Security to provide CHEMPACK training to 66 EMS providers.
- Worked with Office of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Planning to develop a survey for PHEP Community Engagement Project.
- Organized Managing Aggressive People training.
- ICC (International Cricket Council) T20 World Cup planning.
- Submitted deliverables 2023-2024 PHEP grant.
- Provided CPR/AED training.
- Bloodborne pathogen class for NCDOH nurses.
- New Logistics Member training – 6 new members.
- Employee Flu PODs – administered 85 vaccinations over 2 days.
- Integrated Planning Workshop with 20 stakeholders to identify equitable service opportunities for vulnerable populations.



## DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Division of Environmental Health (DEH) protects the community from adverse health effects resulting from environmental pollution, unsanitary conditions or unsafe practices by regulation and enforcement of environmental health programs. DEH is comprised of the following four bureaus: Bureau of Enforcement and Permit Administration, Bureau of Environmental Engineering and Water Supply, Bureau of Food, Recreation, and Community Sanitation, and Bureau of Hazardous Material Storage, Lead, and Vector Borne Diseases.

Regulating the safe and sanitary conditions of public water systems, food service establishments, residential environments, children's camps, public pools and beaches, tattoo/body art facilities, and temporary residences.



Certifying food managers, tattoo and body piercing artists.



Monitoring the abatement of lead hazards, preventing the sale of tobacco products to minors, investigating complaints of rodent and insect infestations, and conducting mosquito and rabies surveillance.



Reviewing and approving engineering plans for water systems, public pools, residential developments of five lots or more, and commercial development in non-sewered areas



- DEH worked with IT on some initiatives, such as updating the Enforcement Actions Tracking System and the Animal Bites Reporting System.
- DEH reviewed and issued food and beverage vendor permits for the ICC Cricket T20 Men's World Cup at Eisenhower Park.
- DEH was notified and enforced the change in the Public Health Law that every day camp must now have an AED.
- Beginning in June, DEH participated in the Tick Surveillance Program. They identified the types of ticks and potential diseases that might be present in the tick population in Nassau County. Mosquito surveillance was ongoing.
- In June there was a 20-inch water main break in the Liberty water system. This affected 30,000 people including a hospital and home for the aging population.
- The EPA has provided funding for the tri-state region to conduct additional surveillance sampling for beach water.
- DEH began rabies baiting in the southwest quadrant of the County. The baiting effort was initiated after reports of two feral cats and one raccoon testing positive for rabies.

## DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

NCDOH Public Health Laboratory is a NYS ELAP certified laboratory conducting chemistry/microbiology/quality assurance-quality control activities. The lab monitors the quality of beach and potable drinking water and the efficacy of wastewater treatment (Ex: Lead in drinking water).

The lab performs chemical agent analyses (volatile and semi-volatile) in water, air, and soil, including lead dust samples. The lab identifies mosquito species for West Nile and EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis) Virus testing.

- In 2024, there was an increase in positive pools.
- The laboratory was audited by ELAP (Environmental Laboratory Audit Program) for over 3 days.



## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025



- Reaccreditation site visit scheduled for January 2025
- Continued Wastewater surveillance
- Further development of Division of Community Health
- Continued implementation and integration of Performance Management System
- Continuation of the Rabies Surveillance Campaign and Baiting
- Development of the Departmental Strategic Plan
- Planning for Anti-vaping programs with JUUL settlement money
- Continuation of the Tick Identification Program

