

# 2022 Annual Report

Jefferson County Department Of Health





# Jefferson County Board of Health

**January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022**

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Chair Emeritus



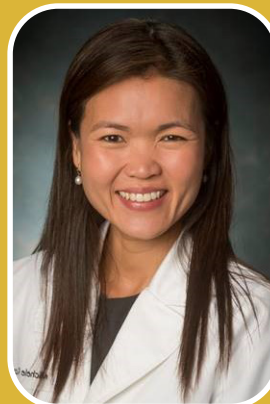
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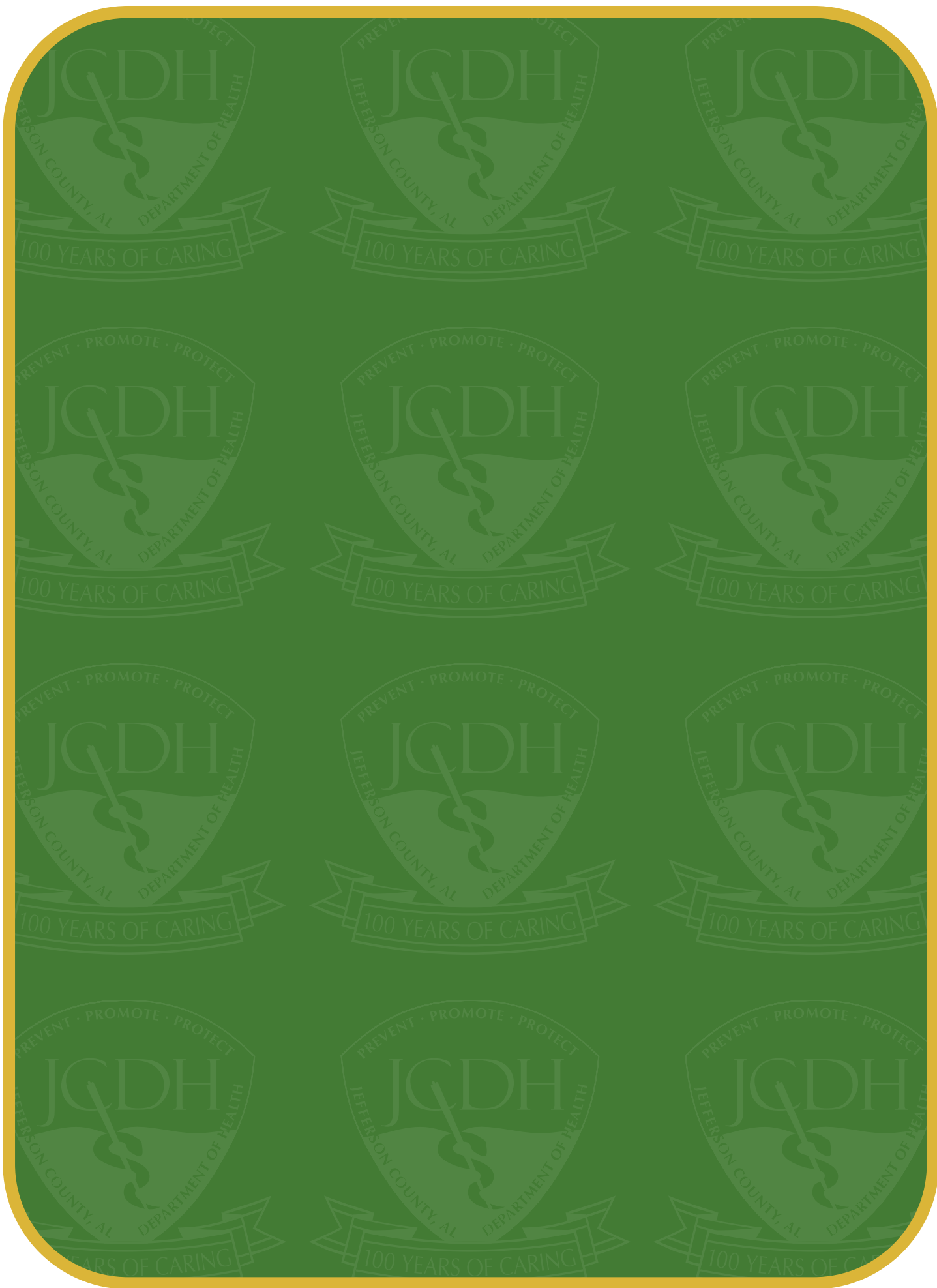
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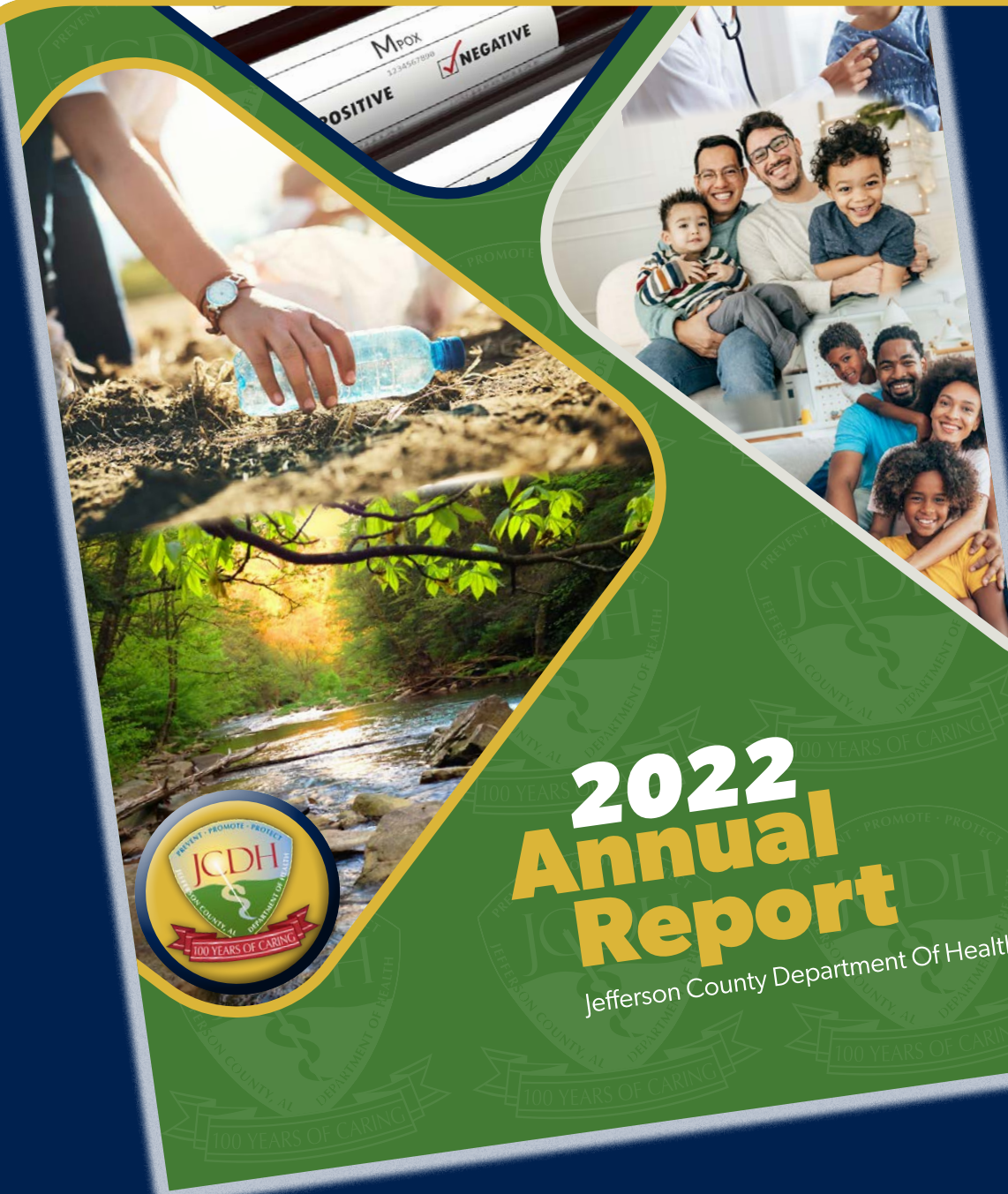
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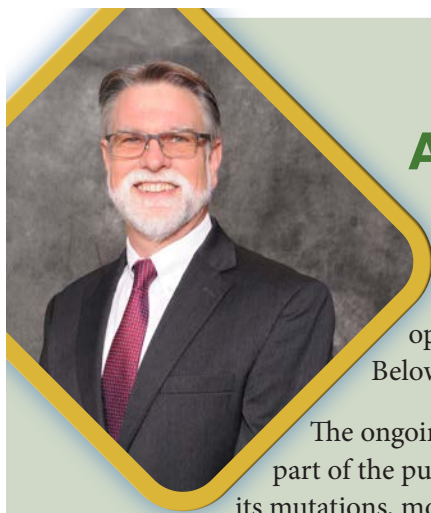
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## A Message from the Health Officer

In this report, you will find information on the many programs and initiatives of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), and an update of some key health statistics for the county. With the start of 2022, new opportunities and challenges faced JCDH and the diverse communities it serves. Below are just a few examples of ways JCDH responded to some of these challenges.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic required JCDH to continue evolving its role as a critical part of the public health infrastructure by providing up-to-date information on the virus and its mutations, monitoring the impact of the disease on the health care system, and providing residents with opportunities to protect themselves against the most severe consequences of

COVID-19 through vaccinations. Through these efforts, JCDH gained a deeper understanding of the community, resulting in changes in operations such as appointment making, delivery of clinical services, and more personalized outreach to historically marginalized communities. One major issue facing the public health system throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has been misinformation. JCDH continued to provide reliable, helpful, and understandable information. In recognition of JCDH's excellence in communicating COVID-19 information to the public, its "Let's Kick COVID Together" media campaign received an AVA Digital Award.

Mpox (formerly called "monkeypox") was another emerging infectious disease JCDH confronted in 2022. JCDH provided vaccination and medication for mpox prevention and treatment.

Ending the HIV epidemic continued to be a priority. In collaboration with the Harvard University Center for AIDS Research, JCDH is developing predictive models to identify individuals at risk for developing HIV and encourage at-risk individuals to initiate Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) to prevent disease spread.

Increasing immunizations to prevent childhood infectious diseases and Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) - a preventable cause of cervical and oropharyngeal cancers - was a focus for JCDH's

Child Health and Family Planning programs. As a Phase 2 winner of the HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau's Promoting Pediatric Primary Prevention (P4) Challenge, JCDH received national recognition for its commitment to increasing immunizations and decreasing health disparities.

Drug overdose deaths continued to increase in 2022. An increasing number of these deaths were from fentanyl mixed into other drugs. With support from the Alabama Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council (which includes leadership from JCDH), the state legislature passed a law making it legal to distribute and use fentanyl test strips so drug users can test drugs for the presence of fentanyl before use. Studies have shown that people who detect fentanyl using these strips are more likely to reduce their overdose risk by using less drug, using



AVA Digital Awards

it more slowly, or using it with someone else present to monitor them. After this law went into effect, JCDH began distributing free fentanyl test strips and providing instruction for proper use to individuals at risk of a fentanyl overdose. Test strips are available to individuals statewide via an online training and request system, along with free overdose rescue kits (naloxone). In addition, JCDH uses an innovative, near real-time overdose detection system to direct rapid deployment of preventive strategies in areas where overdoses have occurred.

Gun violence continues to result in numerous premature and preventable deaths in Jefferson County. It is having a devastating effect on individuals, families, and whole communities. During 2022, several local organizations submitted responses to a request for proposal for providing the case management component of the new hospital-linked violence intervention program (HVIP) funded by JCDH. The HVIP model is an evidence-based strategy to reduce re-injury and retaliation following gunshot injuries. This is the first program of its kind in Jefferson County, and it will be offered to survivors of gunshot injuries under the care of UAB Hospital's Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Division. The Offender Alumni Association (OAA) was selected to lead the case management work of the HVIP. The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI) provided technical assistance and training to OAA's HVIP team and key leaders from JCDH and UAB Trauma and Acute Care Surgery.

Birmingham hosted The World Games 2022, bringing athletes and spectators from all over the world to celebrate unity through sport. JCDH facilitated monitoring and inspections to assure food safety and food defense for the event at 17 athletic venues over 11 days. JCDH activated an internal incident command prior to the event, with JCDH staff working 24-hour shifts to protect the health of athletes and spectators.

As JCDH looks toward the future of public health, promoting health equity, addressing racism as a public health issue, and developing a departmental sustainability plan for climate change will be key actions in achieving JCDH's vision of a healthier Jefferson County for all.



Mark E. Wilson, MD  
*Health Officer*





# INCIDENT COMMAND

During 2022, JCDH utilized the Incident Command System (ICS) to address the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, mpox outbreak, and to prevent public health threats during The World Games 2022.

## COVID-19 Response

In January 2022, due to a high level of community transmission, COVID-19 positivity peaked with about 1,700 new cases per day. The highest proportion of new cases was among those younger than age forty. Hospitalizations due to COVID-19 continued to increase during the month, and JCDH experienced significant COVID-19-related workplace absenteeism.



Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that unvaccinated adults had a five times higher risk of infection compared with fully vaccinated and boosted adults. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted full approval of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine for individuals 18 years of age and older in January 2022.

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) resumed shipment of certain monoclonal antibody treatments for COVID-19 that had been temporarily paused in late December 2021. HHS discontinued approval of some treatments due to emerging ineffectiveness against the Omicron variant. Local pharmacies began receiving shipments of newly approved oral antiviral drugs.

The federal government updated guidance for COVID-19 prevention in K-12 schools and made N95 masks from the Strategic National Stockpile available nationwide at no cost through distribution at select pharmacies. Expanded access to COVID-19 testing provided in partnership with local pharmacies and free rapid at-home test kits mailed by the United States Postal Service (USPS) increased testing access.

JCDH launched additional community mass testing sites in Hoover, Center Point, Midfield, and Gardendale. JCDH continued provision of COVID-19 vaccinations at its Guy M. Tate Building and sent strike teams to provide vaccinations at various community sites/events (e.g., JBS Mental Health Authority, Centennial Community Health Summit, Iglesia Agape, and Bessemer City Schools).

COVID-19 cases significantly decreased in February, and JCDH-sponsored mass testing sites were subsequently





**JCDH Public Health Language workers assist with vaccination efforts**

closed. JCDH continued to offer its COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic in Birmingham. The CDC stated that the country was entering a “new phase” of the pandemic as many people had some immunity to COVID-19 through vaccination or previous infection. The CDC noted that vaccines, boosters, tests, and effective treatments were available to the public. Instead of using community transmission to guide community mitigation strategies, the CDC created an indicator, Community Levels, monitoring new cases and the burden of COVID-19 on local healthcare systems. In February, Jefferson County’s Community Level was classified as “high.”

At the beginning of March, Jefferson County’s positivity rate decreased to 4% of all reported COVID-19 tests; by the middle of the month, the COVID-19 Community Level was downgraded to “low” per CDC indicators. The CDC ended its

universal case investigation and contact tracing recommendation and encouraged health departments to focus these activities in high-risk settings. The CDC launched the National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS) to track the virus causing COVID-19 in wastewater. A more contagious COVID-19 Omicron sub-variant strain (BA.2) emerged in the US. Jefferson County’s positivity rate reached a nadir of 1.6% at the end of March. The FDA authorized a second booster dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for individuals fifty years of age and older, the Pfizer booster for immunocompromised individuals twelve years of age and older, and the Moderna booster for persons aged eighteen years and older at least four months after the first booster dose.

By the end of April, JCDH downgraded its COVID-19 Incident Command activation level due to the decreasing need for mobilizing internal resources. In May, the CDC recommended that children ages 5 to 11 years get a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine five months after completion of the initial Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination series.

Over the next few months, the number of new cases and positivity rate began to steadily increase in Jefferson County. The Community Level was upgraded to “medium” by mid-June. Local COVID-19-related hospitalizations remained stable without capacity concerns. JCDH offered consultation and resources to The World Games 2022 officials relative to COVID-19.

By July, Jefferson County’s COVID-19 Community Level was upgraded to “high” as roughly 230 new cases per day and a 30% positivity rate were reported. JCDH opened a temporary community testing site in downtown Birmingham to ensure access to rapid testing. Due to expanded vaccine authorizations, JCDH began offering COVID-19 vaccine to individuals aged six months and older.

In early August, Jefferson County averaged approximately three hundred new reported cases daily. The CDC announced updated testing, quarantine, and isolation guidance for the public noting, “COVID-19 is here to stay.” JCDH offered the newly authorized Novavax protein-based COVID-19 vaccine as a two-dose primary series, administered three to eight weeks apart, for persons aged eighteen years and older. By the end of the month, the number of new cases and the positivity rate began to fall, and the community testing site in downtown

Birmingham was closed. On August 30, 2022, the federal government outlined the upcoming transition of COVID-19 medical countermeasures, including vaccines and therapeutics, from federal procurement to distribution in the commercial market.

By September, Jefferson County's COVID-19 Community Level was downgraded to "low," and the positivity rate decreased to five percent. The FDA authorized Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna bivalent COVID-19 vaccine boosters targeting both the original strain of the virus and two of the Omicron sub-variants that accounted for the vast majority new COVID-19 infections. JCDH soon began offering these vaccine boosters.

In December, the FDA announced that the last remaining monoclonal antibody treatment was no longer authorized for use in the US. This change was driven by treatment ineffectiveness against the Omicron sub-variants BQ.1 and BQ.1.1. The CDC recommended the use of updated bivalent COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months through 5 years.

During 2022, JCDH administered more than 4,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine. JCDH continued its collaboration with Golden Point Laboratory in offering expedited COVID-19 testing for public safety, municipal, and county government agency employees.

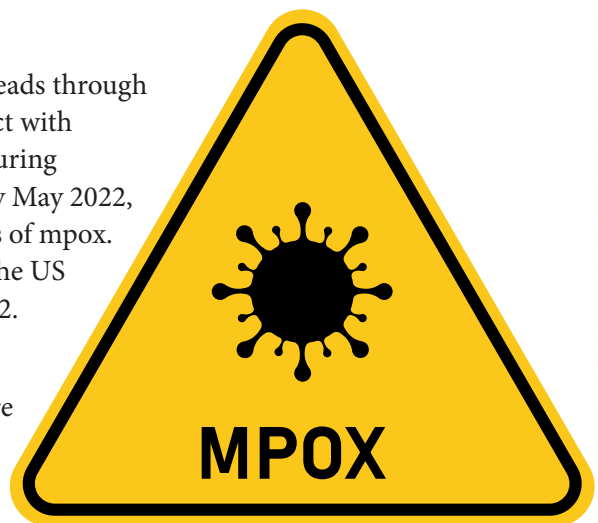
## **Mpox Outbreak 2022**

Mpox, a rare disease caused by infection with the mpox virus, spreads through direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluid, contact with respiratory secretions during prolonged face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact such as kissing, cuddling, or sex. In early May 2022, countries where this disease is not common began reporting cases of mpox. On May 17, 2022, the US confirmed its first mpox case. Cases in the US begin to rise in June with case counts peaking in early August 2022.

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) reported Alabama's first mpox case on July 15, 2022. At that time, there were approximately 1,470 cases in 44 states in the country. On August 1, 2022, JCDH activated the Incident Command System (ICS) to coordinate mpox response activities.

JCDH surveyed health care partners assessing the local health care system's capacity to respond to the disease outbreak through patient assessment, treatment, and vaccine administration. A call center, established for health care professionals and the public seeking information and guidance on mpox treatment, vaccination, and related topics, managed over 1,200 calls during a six-month period. Media campaigns about mpox vaccination launched using mobile applications, geofencing, Facebook, Twitter, and LIDER News, a Spanish newspaper.

The US Secretary of Health and Human Services declared mpox a Public Health Emergency on August 4, 2022 due to the rapidly increasing number of cases. This enabled the federal government to better respond and coordinate response between federal, state, and local entities. JCDH received a very small allotment of the vaccine for mpox, JYNNEOS®, and initiated limited vaccination for individuals exposed to or at higher mpox risk using guidance





from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and ADPH. JCDH also received a small amount of TPOXX®, a medication for treating mpox.

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) on August 9, 2022 for the intradermal administration of JYNNEOS® as a strategy to increase vaccine availability. The EUA allowed administration of a .01 mL dose instead of the .05 mL dose required when given subcutaneously. This change substantially increased the quantity of JYNNEOS® vaccine available for administration. By August 11, 2022, the US mpox case count increased to 10,768 including 27 cases in Alabama. JCDH added a self-scheduling platform for vaccine clinics during August and began administering JYNNEOS® intradermally on August 15, 2022. Once the availability of JYNNEOS® increased in late September 2022, JCDH returned to subcutaneous administration of the mpox vaccine.

In addition to offering mpox vaccine on-site, JCDH partnered with multiple agencies to offer the vaccine through community organizations and events including Magic City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Our Place, T.A.K.E. (Transgender Advocates Knowledgeable and Empowering), Fiesta, The Hub, Magic City Classic, The Foundry, UAB Equal Access Birmingham, and World AIDS Day. During 2022, JCDH provided more than 1,400 doses of mpox vaccine representing almost 40% of the vaccine given in Alabama.

During the mpox outbreak, JCDH's Prevention and Epidemiology subdivision investigated mpox cases and case contacts. The JCDH Specialty Clinic provided mpox treatment to several individuals. With the rapid public health response, including the vaccination of at-risk individuals, the overall impact of the mpox outbreak in Jefferson County was mitigated.



**JCDH employees educate about mpox at Fiesta**

## ***The World Games 2022 Birmingham***

Birmingham, Alabama hosted The World Games 2022 (TWG), an international sports event from July 6 – July 17, 2022. Over 200 sporting events were held at 17 venues in Jefferson and Shelby Counties. Approximately 3,500 athletes, 375,000 spectators, and 3,000 volunteers participated in TWG.



The City of Birmingham, in collaboration with the Jefferson County Emergency Planning Agency (EMA), established Unified Command allowing agencies with varying legal, geographic, and functional authorities and responsibilities to work together effectively. JCDH served in the healthcare branch. The US Department of Homeland Security assigned TWG a SEAR (Special Event Assessment Rating) 1 security rating. This rating indicates “a significant event with national and/or international importance that requires extensive federal



interagency support.” The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) identified food as a potential weapon of mass destruction for this event and consequentially deemed food security and food defense necessary elements in preventing acts of terrorism.

JCDH requested assistance from federal partners on October 25, 2021 to support food protection for TWG including food safety and food defense. Food safety consisted of activities ensuring the protection of food products from unintentional sources of contamination. Food defense involved actions to protect food products from intentional sources of contamination. Food defense training for food inspectors and food service establishments, ICS training for supervisors and managers, guidance and assistance with pre-event assessments and inspections,

on-site staffing, and training on applying risk-based inspection methods during large-scale events were provided by JCDH in collaboration with federal partners.

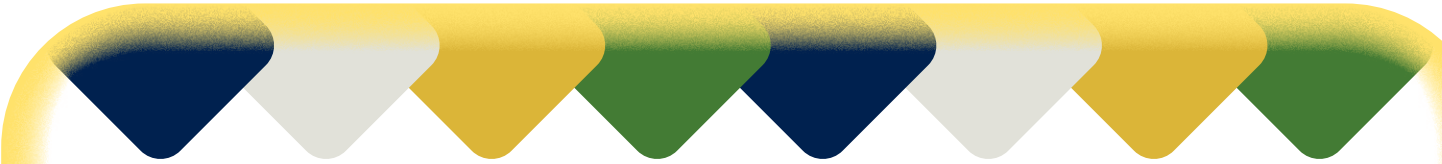
A Food Protection workgroup with representatives from the JCDH Food & Lodging Protection subdivision, federal partners, Shelby County Health Department (SCHD), and Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) formed in late 2021. The workgroup’s primary objective was ensuring the safety and security of food and beverages transported, prepared, and consumed at TWG. The workgroup gathered information, set priorities, identified issues, and discussed methods to ensure incident objectives were met.

On November 15, 2021, JCDH participated in a Food Vendor Summit organized by TWG where JCDH provided requirements for temporary food establishments and mobile food units to entities interested in becoming vendors at TWG events. Over the subsequent months, Environmental Health staff worked with food vendors and ensured restaurants and hotels had an up-to-date scored safety inspection.

In late November and early December 2021, JCDH collaborated with TWG organizers and GoldenPoint Scientific Labs to provide COVID-19 testing for dignitaries and federation delegates visiting Birmingham from



**Incident Command Post in action**



countries across the world requiring COVID-19 testing prior to air travel. JCDH conducted testing and provided test results within 24 hours to assist individuals in keeping scheduled airline flights.

Between February and June 2022, members of the Food Protection Workgroup performed pre-event assessments with food vendors selected by event planners, discussed the planned use of facilities, reviewed facility layouts for needed modifications, ascertained food production dates and operational schedules, gathered point of contact information, and addressed standard operating procedures. In addition, event menus and information on wholesale suppliers were obtained allowing the Food Protection Workgroup to build rapport with food service personnel, discuss expectations, and familiarize food operators with the risk-based focus utilized during TWG.

As demand for JCDH's resources increased, JCDH established Incident Command (IC) to coordinate resources across departments and divisions, establish standardized operational processes, streamline communication, and improve information flow between Unified Command, JCDH, and other agencies. JCDH staff from General Services, Accounting, Clinical Services, Emergency Preparedness, Disease Control, Air Pollution, and Community Environmental Protection assisted with TWG response activities.

JCDH and SCHD performed operational site visits during the spring to assess food establishments' risk factors while operating, inclusive of food handling practices, equipment functionality and capacity, and food defense methods. These visits allowed health department staff to observe compliance, determine need for menu adjustments, and give additional food protection training. Over 53 restaurants and caterers, 54 food trucks, and 42 temporary food vendors received these services.

In early July 2022, JCDH established an Incident Command post at its Guy M. Tate Building that remained operational throughout TWG. The post, staffed by JCDH personnel and federal partners, served as the hub for TWG food-related operational activities. In addition to activities at the event venues, monitoring for recalled foods, record review of restaurants providing food for TWG volunteers, and assessment of the integrity and safety of food provided via delivery trucks enhanced food safety.

Due to heightened security concerns with TWG, additional security strategies were implemented within JCDH facilities and across the local area through Unified Command including road closures and increased law enforcement presence. JCDH implemented strategies to document the location of its staff and resources assigned to TWG in preparation for a terrorist or domestic event. To ensure efficient movement of resources between venues, JCDH implemented a shuttle service for staff assigned to food protection and the Emergency Operations Center. Due to the efforts of JCDH and community partners, TWG was a safe and successful event.



# Clinical Services

**The Clinical Services Division of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) includes Child Health, Family Planning, Laboratory Services, Pharmacy Services, Public Health Language Services, Social Services, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).**

## Child Health

JCDH Child Health Clinics served an average of more than 100 new patients monthly during 2022 while experiencing staffing shortages similar to other primary care provider organizations. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, reductions in immunization rates and well-child visits, and a rapid rise in pediatric mental health challenges have been observed. To improve pediatric immunization rates, Child Health expanded vaccine access through enhanced Back to School Immunization campaigns and JCDH's first Halloween Flu Shot Clinic.

In coordination with JCDH Social Services, Child Health received the HRSA P4 Challenge Phase 2 Award, an award given to the top 20 projects nationwide for increasing childhood immunization uptake and provision of well-child care. Funding from the award purchased educational supplies supporting newborn care, pediatric safety, pediatric dental care, and transition to puberty. Health education programming included informational videos regarding JCDH Social Services, Dental Health, and WIC programs, and educational segments from the CDC and other national healthcare organizations. The Reach Out and Read program, a national program providing age-appropriate books during well-child visits to patients under age five, relaunched during 2022 using P4 Challenge funding.



Halloween Flu Shot Clinic

The convergence of Flu, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), and COVID-19 significantly impacted children's health beginning in fall 2022. Child Health utilized its unique position to diagnose and treat these diseases. JCDH's on-site Flu/RSV/COVID combined polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing enabled accurate same-day diagnosis and treatment to minimize additional disease exposure and spread within families, schools, and the community. Other notable accomplishments were participation in the Vax to Stop Cancer Quality Improvement Project to increase HPV vaccination rates, successful submission and award of 25 American Board of Pediatrics Part 4 Maintenance of Certification credits for JCDH's innovative strategies in providing primary care during the COVID-19 pandemic, and pediatric resident training in public health and primary care pediatrics. Child Health increased patient care access through telehealth services and implementation of a fast track service during periods of severe illness. Additionally, the certification process for attaining sensory inclusive facility designation through Kulture City began.

## Dental Health

COVID-19 pandemic-related clinic operating precautions previously reduced Dental Health's patient volume; however, treatment capacity steadily recovered throughout 2022. Nearly 4,000 patients received evaluation and treatment during approximately 8,000 patient visits. JCDH Dental Health continued to closely monitor and diligently follow infection control guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Organization for Safety Asepsis and Prevention, the American Dental Association, and the



# Clinical Services



Dental Health staff providing education at Fiesta

Alabama Dental Board to provide a safe care environment.

Wallace State Community College dental hygiene and Lawson State dental assistant student rotations resumed in 2022. These educational collaborations enable students to serve the community while refining the student's clinical skills.

Dental Health provided community outreach to 220 persons attending Fiesta, including dental health education and JCDH Dental Clinic information. Two staff members from Western Dental Health created and conducted the first "Tooth Talks," an interactive oral health presentation for elementary-aged students. "Tooth Talks"

educated over 350 second graders at Hueytown Elementary School on nutritional choices, the importance of regular dental visits, and proper oral hygiene.

## Family Planning

In 2022, JCDH Family Planning (FP) Clinics served 5,599 unduplicated patients through 11,006 clinical encounters. Family Planning staff completed continuing education on sexually transmitted infections and contraceptives. Completion of Intrauterine Device (IUD) placement training by FP nurse practitioners expanded patient access to this contraceptive method.

A project providing human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccination at no cost to patients using Title X funding received through the Alabama Department of Public Health concluded in 2022. This project delivered 319 doses of HPV vaccine. Twenty-two patients received the full three-dose HPV series; 30 patients completed a previously initiated HPV vaccine series, and 171 patients received either the first or the second HPV vaccine dose. A Family Planning appointment self-scheduling option, piloted in 2022, became a popular option for patients.



JCDH Mobile Health RV

JCDH received a \$1.5 million Title X Dire Needs Grant in early 2022 enabling the expansion of mobile service delivery and telehealth services, implementation of a teen-focused clinic, and FP services for men. The Mobile Health Services Clinic, launched in September 2022, had nine deployments during 2022 including those at Fiesta, Mi Pueblo, Iglesia Agape, and The Foundry Ministries. This method of service delivery resulted in an 87% follow-up rate in the FP Clinics. Multiple partnerships created in 2022 supported the mobile unit's ongoing community presence.

## Laboratory Services

Laboratory Services' expansion into Western Health Center's Specialty Clinic during 2022 resulted in patient access to services at three moderate complexity laboratories supporting clinical care excellence. All three labs received a perfect

# Clinical Services



score of 100 for annual proficiencies in 2022. A compendium for mpox testing was added to the available tests for the Specialty Clinic. Laboratory Services assisted in launching a family planning mobile unit with Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waived lab capabilities and collaborated in developing an Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) account enabling hepatitis C (HCV) testing at no cost for patients.

A priority for Laboratory Services remains staff training and reduction in errors for clinic labs. Laboratory Services developed a new training program and moved the

health centers to a more independent, interfaced testing model. JCDH clinical staff registered in the Telcor interface system and completed Labcorp link training. Laboratory Services staff assisted with training newly hired Child Health and Family Planning clinical staff. Annual proficiencies were developed for the Child Health and Family Planning Clinics in accordance with CLIA guidelines for waived testing for implementation in 2023. Staff training and the interfaced laboratory system implementation resulted in a decrease from 30 or more lab errors monthly to zero errors in October 2022. Health center and clinic assignment of ADPH clinic identification streamlined the process and resolved missing laboratory test results.

Due to the significant threat of respiratory diseases for children in 2022, Laboratory Services extended clinical lab services within the JCDH Child Health Clinics. Each health center received equipment and training to perform COVID-19, influenza, and RSV PCR testing. PCR testing provided faster results for preventing the spread of communicable respiratory illnesses. Further, monthly reports on COVID-19, influenza, and RSV detection were developed and then used by JCDH's Disease Control Division to monitor and report disease prevalence.

Through technology enhancements, improved training, and adherence to required standards established by federal agencies, Laboratory Services maintained CLIA compliance.

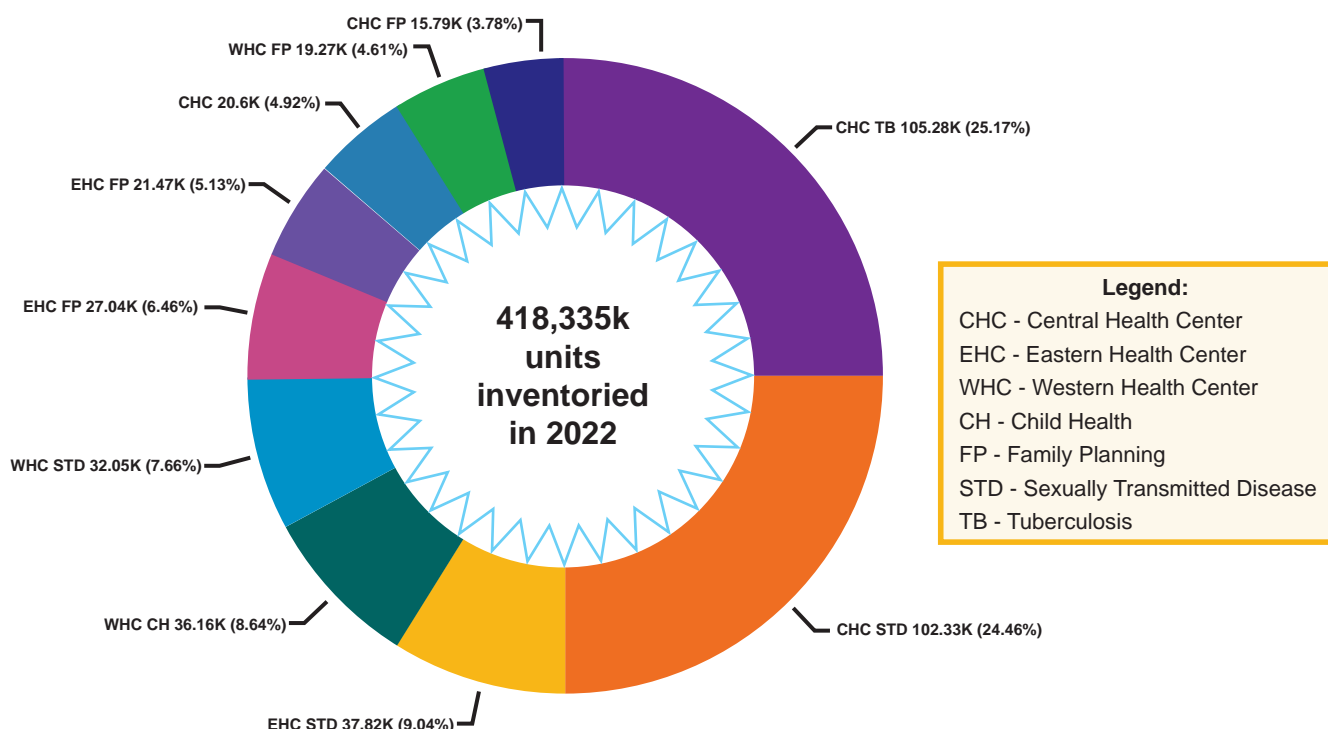
## Pharmacy Services

The Pharmacy Program maintains and monitors JCDH's compliance with federal pharmaceutical programs including Vaccines for Children (VFC) and 340B, a drug pricing program. In collaboration with other JCDH programs, assistance with naloxone distribution, COVID-19 vaccine storage and distribution, mpox treatment and vaccination, and addressing other pharmacy-related needs remained a focus.

During 2022, Pharmacy staff inventoried 418,335 units of medication to ensure compliance, maintain supply, and provide data to the newly established 340B Oversight Committee. This committee, led by the Pharmacy Manager, maintains records demonstrating compliance with 340B Program requirements. The Pharmacy Team established a pharmacy-specific policy, developed training sessions for JCDH clinicians handling medications, completed monthly medication and vaccine inventories, and produced a newsletter, *The Pharmacy Progress*, highlighting the significance of these endeavors. Pharmacy staff, the Family Planning staff, and the 340B Oversight Committee collaboratively established JCDH's first sole-recipient 340B site, JCDH Mobile Health Services.

# Clinical Services

## 2022 Percent of Medications Inventoried by Site and Program



The Pharmacy Program helped distribute 1,231 units of naloxone to UAB Emergency Clinics and 11 Jefferson County pharmacies. This distribution, in partnership with the Health Equity and Population Health Division, provided Jefferson County residents naloxone access at no charge to the recipient.

## Public Health Language Services



Public Health Language Workers

The Public Health Language Program offers persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) access to meaningful communication and an equal opportunity to participate in services, activities, programs, and benefits offered through JCDH. Based on COVID-19 vaccination experience, increasing COVID-19 and other vaccination rates in Jefferson County was achieved through community partner collaboration and community education. Public Health Language Workers (PHLWs) provided language access and promoted health service acquisition, including vaccination, through outreach activities including door-to-door visits in various communities, and placing flyers advertising community health-related events. Through these efforts, the COVID-19 vaccination rate among the Hispanic/Latino/



# Clinical Services



Outreach at Mi Pueblo Supermarket

Latinx community increased to 77% of all Hispanic/Latino/Latinx residents of Jefferson County. By June, the US was experiencing an outbreak of mpox (monkeypox) disease. Public Health Language Workers provided education, assisted in vaccination clinics, served as a liaison between the LEP community and JCDH Disease Control, collaborated with community partners, and organized a community-wide educational session targeting the LEP community via Zoom.

As JCDH increased its efforts to provide HPV vaccine and family planning services, PHLWs contacted eligible patients, provided education, and encouraged vaccination. PHLWs spoke with members of the international community, provided information, and connected residents

with JCDH staff to answer medical questions when needed. A review of data collected from April 2021 until May 2022 indicated that 62% of all JCDH patients receiving HPV vaccine during this time were LEP clients. In addition to work to improve vaccination rates, PHLWs assisted the Family Planning Program in providing services at Mi Pueblo Supermarket on the first Thursday of each month via a mobile unit. PHLWs assisted with other vaccinations efforts during the year including back to school and influenza clinics located in JCDH facilities, churches, supermarkets, and service organizations.

For the eighth consecutive year, JCDH participated in Fiesta, the largest festival in the southeast celebrating Hispanic culture and heritage. The JCDH Language team led the planning and coordination of services offered by multiple JCDH divisions. At least 40 JCDH employees were on-site during Fiesta in addition to the PHLWs who provided language access and outreach for the LEP community. JCDH offered multiple vaccines and family planning education from the mobile unit during Fiesta.

The Public Health Language Program's priorities include providing material in the language of need and encouraging JCDH staff to communicate with individuals in their language of choice. This included the translation of 151 documents. Flyers promoting vaccinations in the community were produced in multiple languages based on the community to be reached.

The Language Services Team bridged the gap between JCDH and the LEP community by assisting with various language media, providing interpretation services within JCDH Clinics, identifying Spanish speakers for media outlets, and serving as a liaison in the international community. During 2022, PHLWs interpreted during 63,697 encounters occurring in three JCDH facilities. Language services were provided in an array of languages including Spanish, K'iche, Vietnamese, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese, Luganda, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, French, Akateco, and Kanjobal.

## Social Services

In 2022, Social Services continued its commitment to patients at JCDH Health Centers. Social Services received 129 referrals from ADPH for childhood lead poisoning prevention and newborn screening concerns. In addition, Social Services documented 8,074 encounters, mailed 1,983 letters, and entered 5,821 patient cases to support JCDH's Child

# Clinical Services

Health, Dental Health, WIC, Family Planning, and Sexual Health programs.

The Social Services program is staffed by licensed social workers, registered nurses, and board certified case managers who implement patient-centered strategies related to:

- Healthy and balanced lifestyles
- Access to quality healthcare services
- Positive social functioning.

One of the biggest barriers is the lack of patient resources. It is often difficult to obtain transportation, navigate health systems, and secure funds for medications, utilities, food, clothing, affordable housing, and other necessities for living. Social Services staff served patients through the following activities:

- Appointment scheduling and reminders
- Case management and care coordination
- Community resource referrals
- Home visitation
- Individualized care plans.

Social Services engaged with community partners and participated in community events educating Jefferson County residents about public health benefits and services at JCDH. Agency collaborations included the Addiction Prevention Coalition, Children's Policy Council, the Department of Human Resources, Alabama Medicaid, the Jefferson County Commission, Ascension St. Vincent's, municipal court, and many other organizations.



Social Services staff participating at a community event

# Clinical Services

## *The Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children*

Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) services are provided at three clinics in the Jefferson County District in Alabama. These are located within Central, Eastern, and Western Health Centers. WIC services include nutrition education, breastfeeding support, healthy foods, and referral to other health-related resources.

March 2020 Federal Waivers allowed remote WIC service provision due to the pandemic. Certifications and follow-up appointments were conducted in some cases during 2022 by phone, and benefits were issued remotely to the participants' eWIC accounts. These waivers remain in effect until mid-April 2023.

Abbott recalled several specialty infant formulas in February 2022 creating a shortage of all types of formula nationwide. Due to this shortage, Federal Waivers, enacted in June 2022, temporarily expanded formula purchasing options for WIC participants. Additional container sizes and non-contract formulas were added to help address the shortage. These temporary options, scheduled to end December 31, 2022, were extended through January 31, 2023.





# Clinical Services

The formula shortage made it difficult for parents to find some prescribed formulas in the retail markets. Many families needed to change infant formulas multiple times. Families with infants needing special medical formulas were the most affected. WIC was able to obtain some prescribed formulas and allowed families to pick up formula from WIC Clinics.

The increase to the WIC Cash Value Benefit for Fruits and Vegetables that began in June 2021 was extended in March 2022. It is expected that this increase will become a permanent part of the WIC food package. An increase to the WIC Cash Value Benefit (CVB) was implemented on October 1, 2022 due to inflation.

Jefferson County WIC Clinics began scheduling some in-person appointments in July 2022; all certification and re-certification appointments were completed in-person as of October 2022. In-person certifications allow more accurate nutrition assessments for participants. The physical presence waivers remain in effect and allow for certification completion remotely in special circumstances.

With fiscal year 2023, options on the Alabama WIC approved foods list increased. These additions included frozen fruits and vegetables, expanded options for yogurt, eggs of any size, expanded sizes for juice and infant pureed foods, and pouches of tuna and salmon. It is anticipated that these increased options will improve redemption rates for WIC benefits.

Other changes with the new fiscal year included decreased funding for Alabama WIC districts. This decrease in funding made it necessary to move the Jefferson County WIC Program's licensed practical nurse positions to other JCDH departments.

The Jefferson County WIC Program collaborated with other agencies to provide needed services for the Jefferson County community. In October 2022, 27 families received free diapers and hygiene products from Door Dash and Bundles of Hope Diaper Bank. KidOne started a pilot project in Jefferson County in December 2022 providing transportation to WIC appointments for Medicaid recipients.

The average Jefferson County WIC Program monthly caseload for 2021 was 13,199, and the average caseload for 2022 was 13,039. This slight reduction in caseload was experienced across Alabama. The average caseload is expected to increase in 2023 as vacant staff positions are filled.



Alabama eWIC card

# Disease Control

**The Disease Control Division's activities prevent or reduce the spread of infectious diseases in Jefferson County. This division consists of the Prevention and Epidemiology, Tuberculosis, and Sexually Transmitted Disease Programs, and the Specialty Clinic.**

## ***Prevention and Epidemiology Program***

The Prevention and Epidemiology (P&E) program investigates notifiable diseases, including emerging infectious diseases, and disease outbreaks of any type. Partnerships with medical providers, schools, and long-term care facilities support disease mitigation and disease transmission prevention. P&E continues to lead Jefferson County's COVID-19 pandemic case and outbreak investigations. In 2022, Jefferson County experienced increases in influenza-like illness (ILI) activity and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

P&E staff monitored individuals with a travel history to Uganda for possible exposure to the Ebola virus following detection of Ebola Virus Disease in that country. Informational calls with local public health partners, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) informed guidance for emerging issues of public health concern, including Ebola. P&E continued its collaboration with local sentinel flu providers (frontline medical offices and care providers) in obtaining ILI data for monitoring influenza; ADPH also uses this information in its statewide respiratory illness surveillance. P&E investigated over 480 notifiable disease cases and 13 outbreaks during the year.

## ***Tuberculosis (TB) Program***

The TB Program provides services addressing the prevention and treatment of TB through education, evaluation, and provision of therapy for Jefferson County residents with suspected or confirmed active TB or latent TB infection. Medication administration for active and suspected TB cases is directly observed by JCDH staff to ensure completion of the prescribed course of therapy and to reduce the risk of drug resistance. The percentages of foreign-born (78%) and extra-pulmonary TB cases (78%) during the year were the highest on record in Jefferson County.

The TB Program followed ten active tuberculosis cases, an 11% increase from the nine cases managed during 2021. Staff initiated a contact investigation for each TB case to identify, evaluate, and treat exposed individuals and prevent disease spread; however, due to the large number of extra-pulmonary cases, the number of case contacts was significantly lower in 2022 than during past years. Additionally, JCDH identified and screened 17 contacts of persons with active TB.

## ***Sexual Transmitted Disease (STD) Program***

The STD Program continues to provide Jefferson County residents with quality and expedited services to control the acquisition and transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Large STI screening events provided at no charge to the public as part of STD Awareness Week and on World AIDS Day, December 1, 2022, expanded disease detection. The December 2022 event also offered COVID-19, influenza, and mpox (monkeypox) vaccination and TB screening. Additionally, JCDH's Disease Intervention Specialists participated in the citywide AIDS Awareness Day event at Birmingham City Hall.

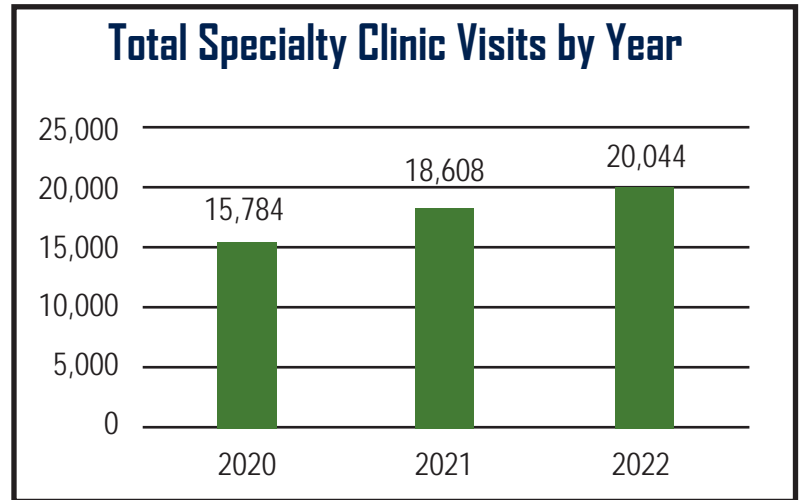
Of note, the STD Program expanded community access to Fast Track Visits in the Sexual Health Clinic. These visits provide rapid and comprehensive evaluation for persons seeking STI testing.

# Disease Control

In 2022, the STD Program's encounter summary was as follows: 3,519 community members engaged through community-based events, 1,863 Fast Track STI screening visits completed, and 3,659 persons diagnosed or treated for a STI or interviewed as a STI case contact. More than 525 persons with syphilis received evaluation and treatment, and 124 newly diagnosed HIV cases received assessment and referral for care. To reduce the transmission of HIV, the STD Program provided education on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) or post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to 163 persons. During the year, 23 individuals initiated PrEP.

## Specialty Clinic

The Specialty Clinic evaluates, diagnoses, and treats patients with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and tuberculosis (TB). This clinic also evaluates and provides vaccinations for persons planning international travel, places and reads TB screening tests, administers adult immunizations, and provides certification for religious exemption for immunizations for school-age children. HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and hepatitis C evaluation and treatment are also offered.



During 2022, 11,663 unique patients were served during 20,044 visits to JCDH Specialty Clinics including the three locations of the Sexual Health, Tuberculosis, the Community Service, and Travel Clinics.

Of the total patients seen, 9,224 received evaluation in the Sexual Health Clinic, and 1,521 persons received evaluation and/or treatment in the Tuberculosis Clinic. The Travel Clinic provided 371 pre-travel consultations, representing a 40 percent increase in these consultations from 2021. Over 2,000 patients received vaccines through the Community Service Clinic. The Travel Clinic provided 1,377 pre-travel doses of vaccine during 469 clinic visits.

Changes to clinical flow within the Specialty Clinic piloted during the initial years of the COVID-19 pandemic became standard operating procedures in 2022. Enhancements included expanded use of electronic registration, telephone visits, and pre-visit interviews to improve patient throughput and increase patient satisfaction.

The Sexual Health Clinic began offering services at Western Health Center in 2022. By offering services within all JCDH Health Centers, the number of Sexual Health Clinic visits in 2022 increased from 2021. During 2022, 63 individuals completed PrEP appointments, and 53 individuals received evaluation for Hepatitis C infection and/or treatment within this clinic.

The Sexual Health Clinic's Fast Track appointments, conducted in collaboration with the STD Program, provided easy access for comprehensive STI testing for persons without active STI symptoms. In 2022, the STD Program and Specialty Clinics conducted 1,843 Fast Track STI screening visits, a 37 percent increase from 2021. In November 2022, the Sexual Health Clinic launched online Fast Track appointment self-scheduling.

The Specialty Clinic initiated evaluation for contacts of persons exposed to an active case of mpox (monkeypox) or with mpox symptoms during 2022. Qualified mpox patients received treatment with TPOXX®. Mpox vaccine administered to high-risk individuals at local events and within the Specialty Clinic assisted in limiting disease spread.



# Environmental Health

**The Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) Environmental Health Services Division includes the Air and Radiation Protection, Community Assessment, Community Environmental Protection, Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Food and Lodging Protection subdivisions.**

## ***Air and Radiation Protection***

The Air and Radiation Protection subdivision includes the Air Pollution Control, Air Monitoring, and Radiological Health Programs.

The Air Pollution Control Program regulates sources of air pollution encompassing industrial sources. Area sources of pollution include gasoline stations and tanker trucks, dry cleaners, open burning, and asbestos demolition and renovation activities. For industrial and area sources of air pollution, JCDH staff conduct routine and periodic inspections of facilities, ensure consistent compliance with regulations through receipt of reports and review of records, and initiate regulation enforcement actions when warranted.

The Air Monitoring Program operates a complex network of air monitoring stations located throughout Jefferson County to assess ambient air quality. Data from these monitors help determine compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's National Ambient Air Quality Standards for criteria pollutants.

The Air Monitoring Program issues daily air quality forecasts for the Birmingham area based on the Air Quality Index (AQI), a color-coded scale displaying the level of air pollution and its associated health effects. JCDH provides fine particle (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) pollution forecasts year-round; the Alabama Department of Environmental Management forecasts ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) levels during the warm season. JCDH issues an Air Quality Alert when a high AQI is forecast encouraging

### **AQI BASICS FOR OZONE AND PARTICLE POLLUTION**

| Daily AQI Color | Levels of Concern              | Values of Index | Description of Air Quality  |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Green           | Good                           | 0 to 50         | Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.   |
| Yellow          | Moderate                       | 51 to 100       | Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution. |
| Orange          | Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups | 101 to 150      | Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.                              |
| Red             | Unhealthy                      | 151 to 200      | Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects. |
| Purple          | Very Unhealthy                 | 201 to 300      | Health Alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.   |
| Maroon          | Hazardous                      | 301 and higher  | Health warning of emergency conditions: Everyone is more likely to be affected.   |

# Environmental Health

the public to decrease emissions from personal activities such as automobile use on days with higher air pollution levels.

The Radiological Health Program evaluates equipment and operating procedures of x-ray and tanning facilities. Assuring compliance with regulations provides protection from accidental harmful exposures during medical x-rays and tanning salon visits.

During 2022, Air and Radiation Protection conducted 123 industrial facility inspections and initiated four industrial, five asbestos, and 13 open burning enforcement actions. Staff conducted 336 x-ray facility inspections and 31 tanning facility inspections.

## Community Environmental Protection

Sections of the Community Environmental Protection (CEP) program include Onsite Sewage, Public Swimming Pool, Community Sanitation, Rabies Control, Vector Control, Body Art, and Watershed Protection. Each section completes inspections, conducts investigations, and provides education on environmental health issues affecting Jefferson County residents.

Investigation of environmental concerns and inspection of select facilities allows JCDH to monitor regulatory compliance; however, education is a proactive means of preventing health concerns and improving environmental health conditions. The Watershed Protection section presented training on erosion and sedimentation control and stormwater standard operational procedures for 26 builders and municipal officers in 2022. Watershed Protection provided additional community education through pamphlets entitled, “How to Keep Our Water Clean,” “Protecting Streams and Storm Drains from Pet Waste Pollution,” and “Proper Disposal of Pesticides.”

JCDH and the Valley Creek Cleanup Committee held the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Cleanup on the Valley Creek Watershed from Wednesday, August 10, 2022 through Saturday, August 13, 2022. JCDH Staff and 365 volunteers removed over 3.2 tons of trash and debris from the watershed.

JCDH, the Storm Water Management Authority, Inc., and the City of Bessemer Stormwater and Jefferson County Stormwater programs conducted a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on April 9, 2022. JCDH staff and 84 volunteers received 179,585 pounds of waste from 923 participants.



Sorting items for proper disposal during Household Hazardous Waste Day



Removing items brought to Household Hazardous Waste Day



Paper is one of the items collected at Household Hazardous Waste Day



# Environmental Health



Volunteers at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Valley Creek Cleanup



Removing tires from Valley Creek



Items collected from Valley Creek during the cleanup

## COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS

| TYPE                         | NUMBER |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Mobile Home Park             | 50     |
| Body Art Facility            | 48     |
| Solid Waste Transfer Station | 2      |



# Environmental Health

## INSPECTIONS

| TYPE                         | NUMBER |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Onsite Sewage Disposal       | 2,113  |
| Pool/Spa                     | 1,882  |
| Industrial Stormwater Runoff | 250    |
| Stormwater Samples           | 234    |
| Garbage Hauler               | 234    |
| Mobile Home Park             | 100    |
| Solid Waste Facility         | 15     |
| Transfer Station             | 2      |

## COMPLAINTS

| TYPE                   | NUMBER |
|------------------------|--------|
| Sanitation             | 847    |
| Animal Exposure        | 694    |
| Onsite Sewage Disposal | 363    |
| Water Quality          | 315    |

## Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP) subdivision employs an “all hazards” approach to planning for and mitigating the effects of public health threats in Jefferson County. Planning, exercising, and training enables EP to respond to all types of emerging infectious diseases such as seasonal influenza, COVID-19, and mpox (monkeypox). EP assists in the planning and delivery of vaccines through existing JCDH vaccination clinics and new community vaccination clinics coordinated with Jefferson County residents and/or community partners to expand vaccine access.

EP played a major role in coordinating JCDH’s activities for The World Games 2022. The Incident Command Structure (ICS) All-Hazards Operations Section Chief and Planning Section Chief training courses were provided as part of a quality improvement initiative to increase staff competence in utilizing ICS concepts during The World Games 2022. The training resulted in a significant increase in staff confidence and knowledge of ICS concepts.

The World Games 2022 was also a primary focus for the Jefferson County Health Care Coalition (HCC), a collaboration of healthcare organizations coordinated by the EP subdivision and convened to assist healthcare facilities during an emergency. Acknowledging the SEAR 1 rating of The World Games 2022, defined as a significant event with national and/or international importance requiring extensive federal interagency support, the HCC Leadership Team began planning for a mass casualty incident (MCI) in November 2021. Hospitals adopted a tiered approach for accommodating patient surge associated with an MCI, and guidelines were developed to coordinate activities among response partners in a mass fatality event.

## Food & Lodging Protection

The Food and Lodging Protection (FLP) subdivision of Environmental Health Services regulates food establishments, hotels and motels, communal living facilities, and childcare centers. FLP permits, inspects, investigates complaints,

# Environmental Health

and provides enforcement actions for each of these industries. In addition, this subdivision provides guidance on sanitary operations and compliance with respective regulations, as well as offers consumer food safety information.

In 2022, FLP's time and resources were significantly devoted to monitoring food services for The World Games 2022. In addition to this work, FLP provided its normal regulatory, educational, and consultative services.

| PERMITS                                     |                |
|---|----------------|
| FOOD PERMITS/ESTABLISHMENTS                 | 2022<br>NUMBER |
| Food Service Establishment                  | 1,805          |
| Limited Food Service                        | 829            |
| Temporary Food Service Vendor               | 348            |
| Limited Retail Food Store                   | 315            |
| Mobile Food Vendor                          | 270            |
| Childcare Center (food permit)              | 221            |
| Retail Food Store                           | 204            |
| Bar and Lounge                              | 181            |
| Public School Lunchroom                     | 162            |
| Ballpark Concession Stand                   | 147            |
| Food Processor                              | 90             |
| Nursing Home Kitchen                        | 50             |
| Elderly Feeding Site                        | 30             |
| Private School Lunchroom                    | 25             |
| Other Institutional Kitchen                 | 16             |
| Hospital Kitchen                            | 14             |
| Charitable Non-permitted Food Establishment | 10             |
| Jail and Prison Food Service                | 5              |
| Summer Feeding Site                         | 4              |
| <b>Total Permitted (Food)</b>               | <b>6,774</b>   |
| <b>OTHER FACILITY PERMITS BY TYPE</b>       |                |
| Childcare                                   | 285            |
| Hotel/Motel                                 | 131            |
| Communal Living                             | 41             |
| Camp  | 29             |
| <b>Other Facilities Total</b>               | <b>486</b>     |
| <b>Total Permitted Facilities</b>           | <b>7,260</b>   |

# Environmental Health

| INSPECTIONS                  |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
|                              | 2022 NUMBER   |
| Food                         | 10,856        |
| Childcare                    | 415           |
| Lodging (hotel/motel)        | 146           |
| Communal Living              | 41            |
| Camp                         | 10            |
| <b>Total All Inspections</b> | <b>11,468</b> |

| OTHER SERVICES        |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
|                       | 2022 NUMBER |
| Temporary Food Events | 96          |

| FOOD SAFETY EDUCATION         |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| FOOD HANDLER TRAINING         | 2022 NUMBER  |
| Satellite (off-site)          | 187          |
| Online                        | 9,383        |
| <b>Total Learners Trained</b> | <b>9,570</b> |



# Finance and Administration

**The Finance and Administration Division at the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) includes Accounting, Central Billing Office, General Services, Human Resources, Management Information Systems, Public Relations, and Vital Records.**

## Central Billing Office

The Central Billing Office (CBO) is responsible for the Jefferson County Department of Health's medical and dental billing, coordinating provider credentialing with payers for billing purposes, and managing billing-related calls from patients and staff. CBO assists with new hire and ongoing staff training related to capturing insurance information, coding, and the patient checkout process.

## General Services

The General Services subdivision of Finance and Administration is responsible for the facilities management of 16 department properties including renovation, remodeling, maintenance, custodial services, overall safety and security, landscaping, and upkeep of grounds. This subdivision also manages the operations and activities of the Print Shop and Records Management. Key projects initiated or completed in 2022 include:

- Installation of a new generator replacing two existing emergency generators at Eastern Health Center
- Contract execution for the Annex Building renovation scheduled for completion by March 2023
- The World Games 2022 logistical planning and implementation through Incident Command, including shuttle services and increased security at various sites
- Purchase of an electric cargo van for delivery of JCDH mail and supplies supporting a Board of Health resolution directing JCDH to become more environmentally sustainable
- Initial planning for the Annex Pavilion construction project to begin in 2023 providing additional space for operations during public health emergencies.

## Human Resources

During 2022, Human Resources (HR) hired 72 full-time employees and 14 interns. Eighteen retirement applications were processed.

In support of JCDH's value of respecting co-workers and the diverse community served, employees completed an educational course entitled, "Cultural Building Blocks and Unconscious Bias." This course increased understanding of unconscious biases, encouraged incorporation of practices to reduce bias, and enhanced understanding of cultural awareness, enabling JCDH to more equitably provide services. Additionally, employees participated in annual compliance and privacy training.

HR developed and conducted "stay interviews" with employees after the first months of employment to identify factors, both positive and negative, affecting the employee's work experience. This process supports the continuation of adequate staffing.

HR's Risk Management program continuously considers the safety of JCDH staff, patients, clients, and partners. Risk Management assisted in minimizing the spread of COVID-19 among staff, implemented an active shooter and

# Finance and Administration

building lockdown protocol, conducted a lockdown drill, and ordered more visible signage regarding the prohibition of weapons within JCDH buildings.

## Management Information Services (MIS)

The Management Information Services (MIS) subdivision provided technology support for JCDH's internal and external vaccination clinics during 2022. MIS continued work on the near real-time opioid overdose rapid response platform. A notable addition to this platform was the placement of naloxone training on website; this expanded community access to this life-saving training. JCDH's MIS Data Team enabled Microsoft Power BI Dashboard, Geospatial Information System, and Data Science platform technology access throughout JCDH to enhance data-driven decision-making.

## Public Relations

JCDH's Public Relations (PR) subdivision strategically and effectively shares public health messages with internal and external stakeholders. One ongoing focus for PR is language and accessibility inclusion. The PR team collaborated with Public Health Language Services regarding translation and communication need identification.

PR provided public health information through traditional media outlets including radio, television, and print media. PR coordinated more than 120 media interviews featuring JCDH subject matter experts and over 20 high-level speaking engagements, not including events fielded directly by other JCDH divisions and speeches by the Health Officer.

In 2022, the continued growth of communication in the social and digital spaces influenced JCDH's commitment for growth on its digital platforms and expanded JCDH's reach among people who rely on electronic devices to get information. JCDH has nearly 19,000 Facebook followers, more than 2,000 Twitter followers, and the most recently added application, Instagram, gained followers. Across these three social media platforms, JCDH had nearly 700,000 digital impressions in 2022, meaning viewers saw JCDH's content or the shared content of public health partners.

PR staff demonstrated the importance of being visible in the community through community-wide appearances. JCDH continued its participation in annual events including National Public Health Week, Valley Creek Cleanup, World AIDS Day, Fiesta, and the Magic City Classic. During The World Games 2022, PR team members represented JCDH on the Joint Information Center (JIC) and provided internal support and staff training.

The Public Relations team won two AVA Digital Awards in the categories of Digital Advertising Campaign (Platinum winner) and Audio Production/Radio/Ad Campaign (Gold winner) in 2022. These accolades resulted from the 2021 "Let's Kick COVID Together" campaign.



Information about JCDH services given at Magic City Classic

# Finance and Administration

Below are statistics for JCDH's social media presence in 2022:

## Total Posts

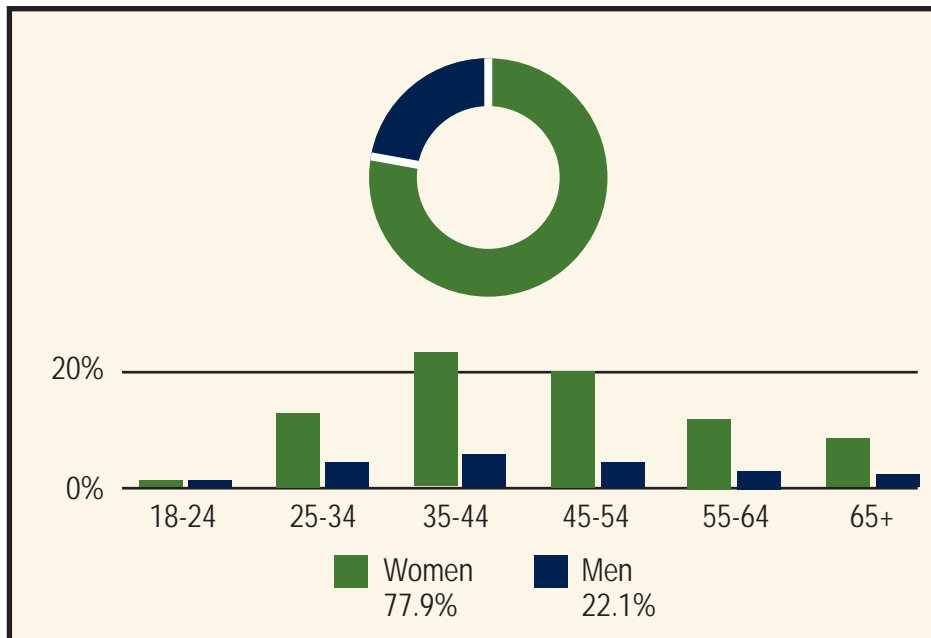
- Facebook: 417
- Twitter: 423
- Instagram: 21

## Total Impressions

- Facebook: 467,155
- Twitter: 215,718
- Instagram: 13,854

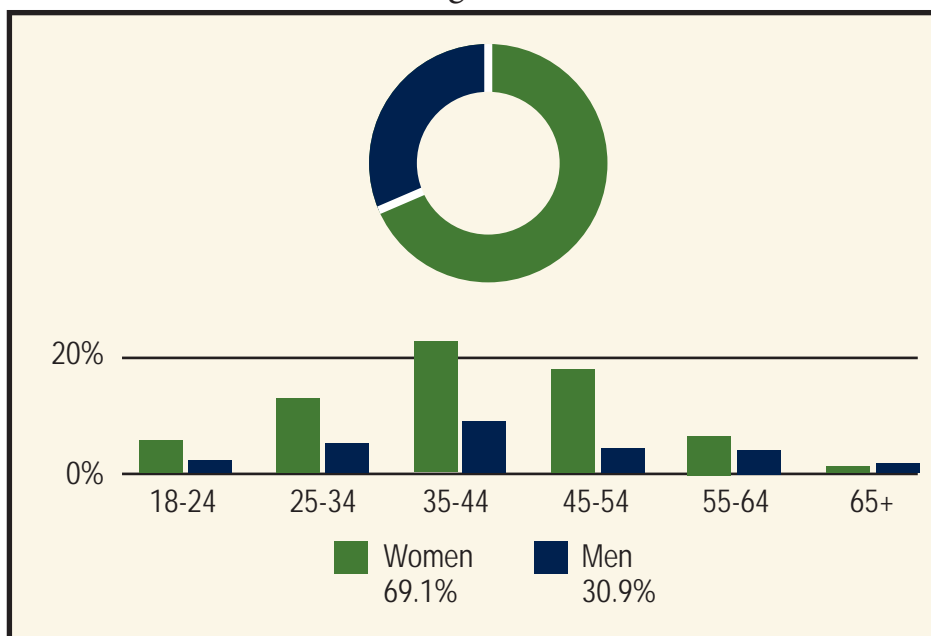
## Total Followers by Age and Gender

- Facebook: 18,961



## Total Followers by Age and Gender

- Instagram: 266



## Total Followers by Age and Gender

- Twitter: 2,288



# Finance and Administration

In January 2022, JCDH collaborated with Easy Testing to launch COVID-19 testing sites within Jefferson County. A social media post notifying the community of the testing sites posted to Facebook reached 155,368 people and garnered 171,011 post impressions, 3,860 engagements, 225 comments, and 677 shares. The same post was the highest engaging post on the JCDH Twitter platform with 6,981 impressions and 52 engagements.

Post Impressions  
**171,011**

Post Reach  
**155,368**

Post Engagement  
**3,860**

## Tweet activity

JCDH @jcdhtweets  
Jefferson County COVID Testing Sites:

Pre-register for the Hoover, Gardendale, and  
Center Point testing sites here:  
<https://www.easytesting.com/>

Pre-register for the Midfield test site here:  
<http://drcelestec19.com>

Call (205) 588-2221 for more information.  
<pic.twitter.com/TTBB6DIEHS>

Impressions **6,981**

Total engagements **52**

Detail expands 30

Media engagements 8

Retweets 6

Link clicks 4

Likes 3

Profile clicks 1

On August 22, 2022, a news release notified the local media and community partners of JCDH's expansion of mpox (monkeypox) vaccination to meet demand. Information shared on social media reached 34,041 people and resulted in 35,905 post impressions, 2,583 post engagements, and 87 shares.

Post Impressions  
**35,905**

Post Reach  
**34,041**

Post Engagement  
**2,583**

## Vital Records

Vital Records, a Finance and Administration subdivision, issued 93,214 birth, death, and marriage or divorce certificates in 2022.

| TYPE AND NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| CERTIFICATE TYPE                | NUMBER OF ISSUED CERTIFICATES |
| Death                           | 57,309                        |
| Birth                           | 23,901                        |
| Marriage                        | 1,554                         |
| Divorce                         | 450                           |

# Health Equity and Population Health

**The Health Equity and Population Health Division addresses select prevalent and high-impact health problems in Jefferson County to improve health equity.**



## EQUITY

With the continuing trend of increasing drug overdose deaths, interventions to reduce these deaths remained a focus in 2022. Using Overdose to Action (OD2A) grant funding, JCDH implemented an online platform for naloxone training that facilitates mail-order naloxone distribution statewide in coordination with the Alabama Department of Mental Health and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). JCDH distributed 9,240 naloxone kits (18,480 doses of naloxone) in 2022. JCDH also provided naloxone kits for co-location with automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in most school systems within Jefferson County. The OD2A team remained extensively involved in the community by providing training on recognizing and responding to drug overdose at 87 community events and completing 13 media interviews, podcast appearances, or presentations to community groups.

During the 2022 Alabama legislative session, fentanyl test strips (FTS) were



Opioid Overdose Rescue Kit

# Health Equity and Population Health

excluded from the Alabama drug paraphernalia law, making the possession of FTS legal in June 2022. JCDH updated its online naloxone training platform to include FTS training and distribution in September 2022. JCDH provided 9,510 FTS to Alabamians and collaborated with three community-based organizations to provide FTS for clients of those organizations. Monitoring of fatal and non-fatal overdoses continued for a seven-county region in the state via a near real-time Microsoft Power BI dashboard modified to include emergency medical services data. The JCDH Regional Overdose Task Force met monthly and added community partners and stakeholders from the seven-county region to further develop and implement strategies to reduce drug overdoses. Through funding from a National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) grant, Implementing Overdose Prevention Strategies at the Local Level (IOPSL), access to peer support specialists in local hospital emergency departments remained available for persons surviving a drug overdose.



JCDH continued its partnership with ADPH on a health disparities grant to provide employee diversity training, develop equity and inclusion principles, and establish an Office of Health Equity at JCDH. As a result of JCDH's health equity initiatives, Human Impact Partners selected two JCDH employees as 2022 Health Equity Awakened Leadership Fellows. These fellows received advanced training on racial and social justice strategies for public health and inside-outside strategies to advance health equity.

To reduce disparities in accessing the human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine and the diagnosis of cervical cancer, the Health Equity and Population Health Division launched an initiative providing HPV vaccinations at no cost to recipients. Vaccines were given at monthly vaccine clinics held at each JCDH Health Center and on a mobile unit during community events. Through this initiative conducted jointly with the JCDH Response Team, 225 HPV vaccines were administered between July 1 and December 31, 2022.

The Health Equity and Population Health Division initiated and launched LEAN training provided by the Auburn Technical Assistance Center for JCDH staff. This initiative will expand to additional JCDH staff in 2023, led by the JCDH Performance Measures and Quality Management Team.

From Day One (FDO) is JCDH's signature program for improving birth outcomes in Jefferson County through reducing infant and maternal mortality. FDO expanded during 2022 to include all obstetrical offices within Jefferson County during the year. As of December 31, 2022, FDO was serving 113 active clients and provided over 3,500 contacts to these clients. FDO participants had an 84% breastfeeding initiation rate, and of clients who smoked, 100% achieved smoking cessation. During 2022, 65 infants were born to program participants. Of the infants in the program, over 90% were up-to-date with recommended vaccinations. FDO graduated 42 clients from the 18-month program during 2022.

Quarterly educational webinars, Community Conversations, were initiated to improve safety and family stability for the FDO participants. Webinar topics included breastfeeding, domestic violence, and financial literacy. The Count-the-Kicks Program, an evidence-based stillbirth prevention campaign, continues to be taught and used by clients during the third trimester of pregnancy.



# Health Equity and Population Health



From Day One  
presenters



FDO participants are invited to a Baby Safety Shower given during the third trimester of pregnancy. The Baby Safety Showers include professional community partners providing information on safety and childhood injury prevention. The four Baby Safety Showers held in 2022 engaged 69 women and 18 family members.

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, three of the Baby Safety Showers were held virtually and included a touch less, drive-by distribution of "inkind" educational and safety gifts.

JCDH partnered with IMPACT Family Counseling in providing safe sleep education to low-income maternity patients to reduce infant mortality. These classes are held three times a month via Zoom. JCDH serves as a liaison for maternity patients in navigating maternity support programs in Jefferson County.

Birth Outcomes staff participated in numerous advisory boards and committees. These include serving as the Jefferson County Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Coordinator to the Alabama Department of Public Health's MCH Division, Birmingham Women's Initiative Workgroups, Region IV Infant Mortality Review, Alabama Opioid and Addiction Council, MCH/Substance Use Workgroups, Alabama Coalition of Healthy Mothers and Children and the State Perinatal Advisory Committee.



From Day One Baby Safety Shower

Birth Outcomes staff provided information on safe sleep FDO at numerous community events such as Fiesta, First Baptist Graymont Health Fair, the National Infant Loss Day Memorial Brunch, and Babypalozza. During 2023, Community Conversations will be launched for the pregnant and non-pregnant women at First Light and Pathways Shelters serving the homeless.

The MCH Roundtable holds quarterly meetings providing education and fostering collaboration among organizations providing care to women and children. In August 2022, the MCH Roundtable hosted a screening of a documentary film, "Aftershock," on the maternal mortality crisis disproportionately affecting African-American mothers.

# Health Equity and Population Health



Dr. Wilson speaking at From Day One graduation



From Day One graduation



# Quality Improvement and Decision Support

**The Quality Improvement and Decision Support (QIDS) Division provides assessment, planning, and evaluation services for internal and external operations of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH). Additionally, QIDS leads JCDH's quality improvement and performance management programs.**

QIDS continued to develop and implement, with numerous community agencies, the goals, strategies, tactics, and metrics for the strategic issues within Jefferson County's five-year strategic plan for health, the **Community Health Improvement Plan for Jefferson County, Alabama (CHIP)**. These five strategic issues are:

1. Control Gun Violence and Improve Community Safety
2. Provide a Timely, Safe, Equitable, and Well-maintained Public Transportation System
3. Improve Mental Health Care Access and Utilization
4. Decrease Obesity
5. Advance Health Equity through Equitable Policies and Access to Resources and Services.



During 2022, QIDS continued its work with UAB Hospital's Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Service, the City of Birmingham, the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI), and the Community Roundtable to develop a hospital-linked violence intervention program (HVIP). HVIPs, an evidence-based strategy for reducing violence using a multi-disciplinary approach, link patients experiencing violence with hospital and community-based resources addressing the underlying risk factors for repeat and retaliatory violence. The detailed request for proposal for a community-based organization to lead the HVIP's case management component developed by QIDS received six responses. After vetting each application and interviewing three finalist organizations, the Offender Alumni Association (OAA) was selected to provide the case management component of the HVIP. QIDS supported the hiring

and training of HVIP staff, development of an asset map, and crafted operational policies and procedures for the HVIP, rebranded as Violence Intervention & Prevention Partners (VIP<sup>2</sup>). VIP<sup>2</sup> will begin serving program-eligible patients from UAB Hospital's Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Service in early 2023.

QIDS staff served on the Alabama Wellness Alliance and supported its *Alabama Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan*. Expansion of mental health service access and legislative funding for the Nurse Family Partnership advanced health equity in Jefferson County through actions of CHIP partner organizations. QIDS and other local agencies supported the Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority as the first bus rapid transit route in Alabama, the Birmingham Xpress Rapid Transit route, launched in September 2022, and



VIP<sup>2</sup> team after a training with Dr. Wilson, Carrea Dye, and Bryn Manzella



# Quality Improvement and Decision Support

microtransit services expanded geographically and in hours of access through Via B'ham.

QIDS and other JCDH divisions continued to support the Health Action Partnership (HAP) of Jefferson County, a coalition of over 100 organizations working collaboratively to make Jefferson County, Alabama a healthier place to live, learn, work, worship, and play. The HAP Optimizing Healthcare Access Priority Group, co-chaired by JCDH's Khalilah Brown, MD, and Darlene Traffanstedt, MD, includes the Maternal and Child Health Roundtable that explored maternal mortality reduction strategies in 2022. The Drug Overdose subgroup of the Optimizing Healthcare Access Priority Group, in ongoing response to the large number of opioid drug overdose deaths in Jefferson County, continued to utilize innovative data strategies for identifying overdose hot spots and providing overdose prevention strategies. The Mental Health Priority Group joined forces with the Mental Health Roundtable to explore expansion of mental health access, including strategies to increase the number of mental health providers. In collaboration with the Bold Goals Coalition, the HAP Healthy Lifestyles Priority Group enhanced child meal access by expanding the reach of existing feeding sites and launching additional feeding sites.

Quality improvement activities conducted in 2022 included ongoing data analysis to inform improvements in the New Employee Orientation Program and an initiative to improve patient satisfaction. Data support provided for the Harvard University Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) is being leveraged in predictive modeling to identify JCDH patients at risk of HIV infection, and analytic support continues for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Gonococcal Isolates Surveillance Project. Survey design and analysis supported JCDH projects including the 2022 Household Hazardous Waste Day.

# Board of Health Actions



Hernando Carter, MD  
Chair Emeritus



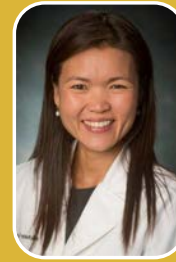
Kenny Murray, MD, MPH  
Chair



Jeffrey Dobyns, DO,  
MSHA, MSHQS, FASA  
General Liability Claims  
Committee/Investment  
Committee



Iris Fancher, MD, FAAP



Michele Kong, MD, MBA  
Secretary



Commissioner  
Jimmie Stephens

**The Jefferson County Board of Health (Board), the governing body of the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), is comprised of six members: five physicians elected by the Jefferson County Medical Society and the President of the Jefferson County Commission.**

The Board approves JCDH's annual budget and all contracts. The Board is authorized to revise or adopt certain public health regulations, endorse policies and legislation promoting health, and take other actions advancing public health. The Board receives regular updates from the Jefferson County Health Officer, Mark Wilson, MD, presentations from JCDH staff on programs and quality improvement activities, and occasional presentations from external public health partners.

Among the actions of the Board of Health during 2022 were:

## **Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program funding – 4/13/2022**

A resolution authorizing the disbursement of JCDH funds in the amount of \$1,150,565 to the Public Health Advised Fund of The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham for funding of the Hospital-linked Violence Intervention Program in Jefferson County (Violence Intervention & Prevention Partners).

## **Public Health Threat of Climate Change and Health Department Sustainability Plan – 4/13/2022**

A resolution declaring that climate change poses a serious threat to public health, citing the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) statement that climate change is expected to lead to increases in heat-related illness, lung and heart disease, food and waterborne illnesses, vector-borne diseases, food insecurity, injuries, mental health and stress-related disorders, disruptions adversely affecting social determinants of health, and health inequities. The Board of Health directed JCDH to develop a sustainability plan that includes reducing its use of fossil fuels and increasing its use of renewable energy for its operations.

## **Purchase and Distribution of Fentanyl Test Strips – 5/11/2022**

A resolution authorizing JCDH to purchase fentanyl test strips for distribution at no cost to individuals in Jefferson County who are at risk of experiencing a fentanyl overdose. This resolution was passed after Alabama's drug paraphernalia law (Section 13A-12-260 of the Code of Alabama of 1975) was amended to exempt (legalize) the

# Board of Health Actions

distribution or possession of certain items used to test for the presence of fentanyl or any synthetic controlled substance fentanyl analogue.

## **Nurse Family Partnership funding – 9/14/2022**

A resolution authorizing the transfer of \$600,000 from JCDH to the Public Health Advised Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham for ongoing funding to help sustain the Nurse Family Partnership program in Jefferson County.

## **Recovery Resource Center funding – 9/14/2022**

A resolution authorizing JCDH to transfer funds to the Public Health Advised Fund to provide support for the Recovery Resource Center in the projected amount of \$310,000 for fiscal year 2023.

## **Public Health Advised Fund – 10/12/2022**

A resolution approving amendment of the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget to include an additional \$4 million of JCDH funds for the Public Health Advised Fund. This resolution authorized and requested the Health Officer to take necessary action to transfer this amount of funds to the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham for this purpose during the 2023 fiscal year.

## **Public Health and Environmental Protection Infrastructure Projects funding – 10/12/2022**

A resolution approving the transfer of \$2 million from JCDH's General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to its General Fund Committed Fund Balance to further fund the Freshwater Land Trust (FLT) for public health and environmental protection infrastructure projects in Jefferson County. This resolution authorizes the Health Officer to amend its existing 2020 - 2024 Funding Agreement with the FLT accordingly, as well as its duration as practicable.



# Public Health Advised Fund

**The Jefferson County Department of Health maintains a funding mechanism through the Public Health Advised Fund (PHAF) of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham. The purpose of this funding is to support community health initiatives in the county. During 2022, \$2,306,341 in grant funding was approved and/or distributed for community-based projects led by local organizations including:**

- A grant to the Hunger Solutions Institute to continue and advance the Double Up Food Bucks™ program in Jefferson County. This program matches purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits up to \$10 dollars per day at participating grocery stores and local farmers' markets.



## CHILDREN'S



- A grant to the Children's Policy Council of Jefferson County for building and retaining intact families through case management services for pregnant and postpartum women affected by substance abuse disorders.

- A grant to the Crisis Center to continue operation of the Recovery Resource Center in assisting individuals and families impacted by opioid addiction navigate the substance abuse treatment system.

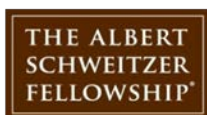


Nurse educating a first-time mother

- A grant to the UAB School of Nursing for continuation of the Nurse Family Partnership, a nationally recognized home-visiting model for first-time mothers and their children demonstrated to improve prenatal health, birth outcomes, and child development, as well as reduce childhood adverse events.

- A grant to the town of Morris for construction of a walking track and children's park providing outdoor space for children to play, regardless of ability.

- A grant to the Freshwater Land Trust through the ABC Coke Fund to provide wayfinding signage and benches along the Tarrant Aqueduct Trail within the Red Rock Trail System.



ALABAMA

- A grant to the Alabama Chapter of the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship for general operational funding in support of its mission to prepare the next generation of health leaders to serve and empower people to live healthier lives.

- A grant to Cawaco Resource Conservation and Development Council to develop Trees Birmingham, an initiative to address and mitigate urban heat islands.

# Public Health Advised Fund

- A grant to the Bundles of Hope Diaper Bank to provide a diaper delivery services and educational materials for low-income mothers.



- A grant to Cahaba Valley Health Care, Inc. to support provision of dental and vision care for people in financial need.

- A grant to the Community Care Development Network to provide violence prevention and intervention services for at-risk youth.



- A final installment of a grant to the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office from the ABC Coke Fund to extend the Helping Families Initiative (HFI) within the Carver High School feeder pattern and Tarrant City Schools. The HFI partners with schools to identify students with unexcused school absences and suspensions and provides a program to improve family functioning, child well-being, and educational outcomes.



- A second installment of a grant awarded from the ABC Coke Fund to the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics for purchasing and distributing books to children from birth to age 5 years through the Reach Out and Read program.

- The second and final installment of grant funding to Oasis Women's Counseling Center from the ABC Coke Fund for provision of in-person therapy and teletherapy for low-income families.

- A grant to the Offender Alumni Association for providing the case management component of the hospital-linked violence intervention program, Violence Intervention & Prevention Partners. This program seeks to reduce gun violence re-injury and retaliation through addressing the social determinants of health.



# 2022 General Financial Information

## Revenues (General Fund - \$53,256,053)

### **1. Ad Valorem Tax Revenue (\$8,840,621 - 17% of General Fund Revenues)**

Alabama Act 77-231 provides that the County (and municipalities within the County) shall pay to the Board of Health annually a sum not less than 2% or more than 6% of all ad valorem taxes collected within the County excluding ad valorem taxes collected for the State of Alabama and all Boards of Education located in the County. These funds are forwarded to JCDH as the taxes are collected.

### **2. Sales Tax Revenue (\$28,011,384 - 52% of General Fund Revenues)**

JCDH receives approximately one-fifth of every one cent of Jefferson County sales tax.

### **3. State and Federal Contracts (\$4,240,063 - 8% of General Fund Revenues)**

These are primarily dollars received from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) resulting from contracts or subcontracts to administer selected public health responsibilities for State Public Health Area 4, Jefferson County. Examples include developing community and educational programs and monitoring activity in nationally identified public health focus areas such as Maternal/Child Health, Family Planning, Immunization, Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Hepatitis.

### **4. Clinical Health Care Revenue (\$6,445,346 - 12% of General Fund Revenues)**

This category represents the amount of reimbursement received for all clinic-related services provided by JCDH. These services include pediatric primary care, family planning, and dental care. Using the Federal Poverty Guidelines, JCDH offers reduced service fees for patients meeting financial and residential guidelines. Approximately 87% of JCDH's reimbursement is obtained from Medicaid, 7% from Blue Cross, and the remaining 6% from all other payers combined (e.g., Medicare, etc.).

### **5. Environmental Health Services (\$3,471,060 - 7% of General Fund Revenues)**

This category represents reimbursement received locally for environmental health services. State law allows fees to be charged for many of the services provided by the Environmental Health Services Division such as restaurant inspections, septic system plans and inspections, air pollution permit fees, open burning permits, radiological equipment inspections, and food handler training.

### **6. Other Revenue (\$2,247,579 - 4% of General Fund Revenues)**

This category is primarily reimbursement received for indirect costs (administration and building overhead) associated with federal grants and contracts such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Air Pollution. Also included are allowable fines levied for violation of public health laws (e.g., air pollution violations), rental fees, parking lot and meter receipts, and fees received for copies of vital records. This category also includes earnings from cash and investments. All JCDH investments are based on a Board of Health approved Investment Policy that strictly follows state and county guidelines.



# 2022 General Financial Information

## Expenditures (General Fund - \$47,741,856)

Expenditures are generally classified by major public health program with administrative costs and the Capital Fund transfer separately identified. General Fund expenditures for fiscal year 2022 include:

|                        |                     |             |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Salaries and Benefits  | \$34,126,270        | 71%         |
| Materials and Supplies | \$6,710,429         | 14%         |
| Contract Services      | \$5,705,157         | 12%         |
| Capital Fund Transfers | \$1,200,000         | 3%          |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$47,741,856</b> | <b>100%</b> |

JCDH also has 17 Special Revenue Funds expected to total approximately \$35 million. Funding is received from federal awards passed through JCDH and designated for activities related to COVID-19, immunization, nutrition, storm water, emergency preparedness, and air pollution. These funds are operated in accordance with the funding requirements of special grants and appropriations.

# Health Statistics 2021\*

| Jefferson County's Population<br>by Age (2021 Census Bureau<br>1-year Estimates) | Age                | Number of Residents |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|
|  | Birth-14 years     | 127,505             |
|  | 15-24 years        | 83,992              |
|  | 25-64 years        | 345,620             |
|  | 65 years and older | 110,703             |
| Total Population   |                    | 667,820             |

## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH 2021 (NUMBER AND RATE OR PERCENT)<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>

|   | Number           | Jefferson County   | Alabama   | United States                      |
|---|------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| Live Births<br>(women ages 15-44)             | 8,040            | 59.4 per 1,000<br>women ages 15-44                                       | 59.5 births per 1,000<br>women ages 15-44                                 | 56.6 per 1,000<br>women ages 15-44 |
| Low Birthweight Births<br>(<2,500 grams)      | Not<br>available | 11.0%  | 10.5%   | 8.52%                              |
| Live Births to Teens<br>(women ages 15 to 19) | 412              | 19.5 per 1,000<br>women ages 15-19<br>9.2 per 1,000<br>women ages 10-19* | 22.9 per 1,000<br>women ages 15-19<br>10.9 per 1,000<br>women ages 10-19* | 14.4 per 1,000<br>women ages 15-19 |
| Infant Mortality<br>(among live births)       | 71               | 8.8 per 1,000<br>live births   | 8.8 per 1,000<br>live births  | 5.45 per 1,000<br>live births      |

*Note: All birthweight and infant mortality data is based on live births.*

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES 2021 (RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION)<sup>2, 3</sup>

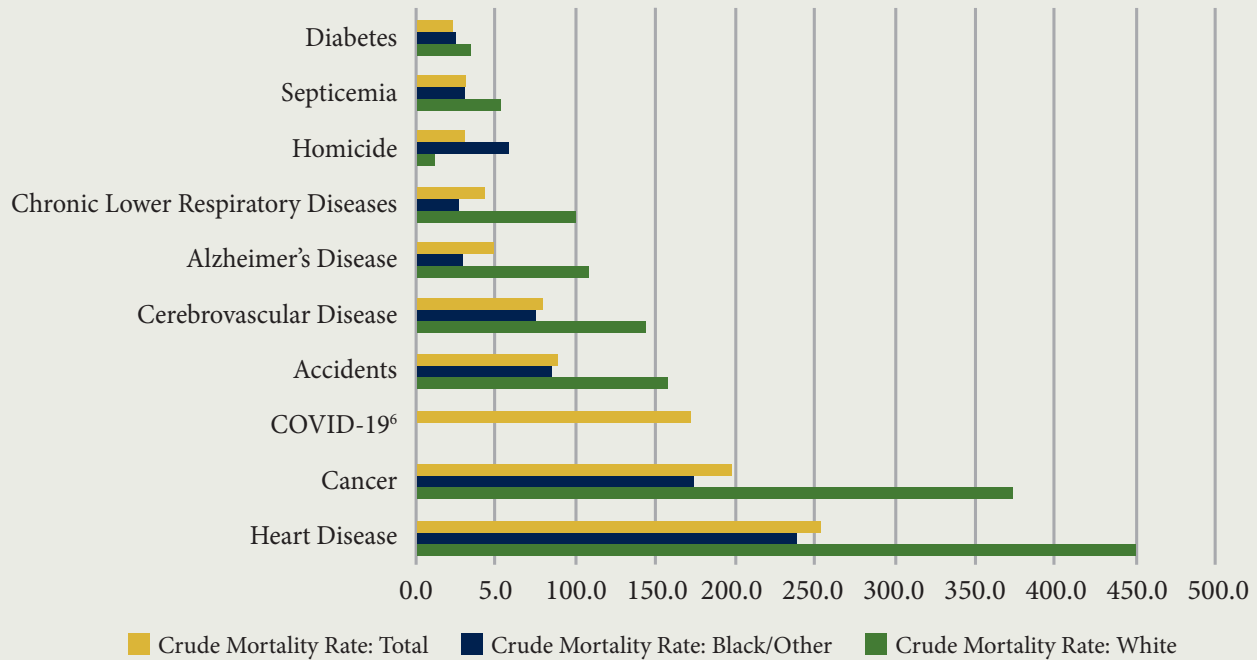
|                                | Jefferson County | Alabama | United States |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------------|
| Chlamydia                      | 918.1            | 639.4   | 495.5         |
| COVID-19                       | 1,649.5          | 1,398.1 | Not available |
| Gonorrhea                      | 539.7            | 328.6   | 213.9         |
| Syphilis (primary & secondary) | 18.2             | 15.2    | 16.2          |
| Tuberculosis (TB)              | 2.6              | 1.9     | 2.4           |

## CHRONIC DISEASES 2021 (CRUDE MORTALITY RATES PER 100,000 POPULATION)<sup>1, 3</sup>

|                                   | Jefferson County | Alabama |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| Heart Disease                     | 253.2            | 301.1   |
| Cancer                            | 198.4            | 206.9   |
| Stroke                            | 79.8             | 66.7    |
| Alzheimer's Disease               | 47.8             | 54.1    |
| Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease | 44.3             | 65.12   |

# Health Statistics 2021\*

## Ten Leading Causes of Death 2021 Crude Mortality Rate per 100,000 Population, Jefferson County, AL<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Alabama Vital Records Database

<sup>2</sup> Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH); [www.alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/healthstats)

<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

<sup>4</sup> Rates are based on the 2021 Community Survey 1-year estimates for Jefferson County; [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

<sup>5</sup> Accidental Deaths include deaths due to unintended drug overdose

<sup>6</sup> COVID-19 Crude Mortality Rate by Race unavailable

\*2022 Selected Health Statistics will be available in the 2023 Annual Report



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**JEFFERSON COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**