

JEFFERSON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
2008 Annual Report



FOLLOWING THE HEALTH ACTION ROADMAP

The 2008 Annual Report highlights innovative strategies and stories of success for the Jefferson County Health Department (JCDH). These accomplishments illustrate JCDH's work toward implementing the Health Action Plan: Our Community Roadmap to Health, and can be viewed online at <http://www.jcdh.org/PGA/HealthAction.aspx>. Synthesizing results from four distinct community assessments, the Roadmap includes a public health system assessment. The theme of the 2008 Annual Report emphasizes community partnerships, working groups and the success of collaborations to address strategic issues and goals on the journey to community health. This report demonstrates JCDH's progress to address the four strategic issues:

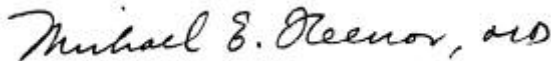
1. How do we encourage healthy lifestyles?
2. How do we develop livable communities?
3. How do we assure access to care?
4. How do we set a course for action?

JCDH has aligned its direction with *Our Community Roadmap to Health* by creating an internal support system to increase the longevity of this process. Several community cooperatives are addressing and supporting each strategic issue. Each section of this report links stories and successful strategies for improving the health of every citizen through community action. Success is dependent on developing relationships, as demonstrated through collaboration between JCDH and the faith-based community to create a strategy to reduce syphilis rates. Other strategies and stories of success provided here serve as a source of information to assist with current decision-making, and for enhancement of public health through community partnerships in the future.

The Jefferson County Department of Health Annual Report presents our progress toward fulfilling our mission to preserve, protect and enhance the health of all citizens in Jefferson County. Using our Health Action Plan as a “Road Map to Health” we have made steady progress toward that destination. Key to this progress is the engagement of other governmental agencies, community organizations and citizens working closely with us to commonly held goals. This common vision of our community as a thriving, healthy, and cohesive community is the “engine” that motivates us to continue forward.

Our Roadmap for working toward improved community health leads us to four strategic destinations: healthy lifestyles, livable communities, improved access to care and public policy. Each of JCDH’s essential program areas, reflect a specific component of these strategic directions. Our programs of Disease Control and Community Health promote healthy lifestyles by empowering citizens to make healthy choices, and by identifying and working to solve ongoing, persistent community health problems in prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections and HIV, as well as outbreak detection and mitigation. Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness Programs support livable communities by ensuring a healthy and safe place for citizens to live and work everyday, including responding to natural and manmade disasters. We have a variety of programs that assure access to care through clinical services, nutrition services, and clinical and social case management programs. Public policy and financial support ensure that all essential programs remain viable.

As servants of Jefferson County, we are pleased to present this report showing accountability and stewardship of the public’s trust in us. These efforts represent our ongoing commitment to improved health for every citizen and every community in Jefferson County.



Michael E. Fleenor, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 1, 2008- December 31, 2008

David Ennis, M.D.

Juan Johnson, M.D.

Gregory Ayers, M.D.

F. Cleveland Kinney, PhD, M.D.

Laura Kezar, M.D.

Commissioner Bettye Fine Collins

Chairman

Claims Committee/Investment Committee

Grants & Policy Committee

Secretary

CREATING A CLIMATE FOR CHANGE IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Improving the health of the Jefferson County community is an endeavor which requires input from a variety of partners working in an environment of “community inspired social entrepreneurship.” Fostering an environment of entrepreneurship focused on community health was the theme of the first annual Health Action Summit on April 10, 2008. This Summit centered on the National Public Health Week theme “Create a Climate for Change,” which consists of increased partnerships among those organizations involved in public health activities.

The first Health Action Summit, at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center, successfully created partnerships and offered learning opportunities from both local and national community health efforts. The Summit was attended by 192 participants and was moderated by Jerry Tracey from NBC 13. Dr. Michael Fleenor began the day with an inspiring address demonstrating the commitment of the health department to translate public health research into practice. This commitment aligned with the plenary session by Michelle Chuk, Senior Advisor for the National Association for City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), focusing on accreditation and assessment in today’s changing public health environment. The need to address the social inequalities that play a role in the health status of individuals was the focus of Rachel Poulain from California Newsreel who presented the groundbreaking work of the “Unnatural Causes” video series. The awards luncheon provided an opportunity to recognize the diligence and achievements of individuals and organizations involved in

Health Action, as well as the opportunity to recognize community health grant recipients, as partners for positive, healthy change. During the luncheon, Dr. Joshua Klapow, associate professor of Health Care Organization and Policy at UAB, delivered a motivational and practical presentation of efforts required to change health behaviors. Afternoon breakout sessions consisted of a wide variety of speakers who addressed topics related to the Health Action strategic issues. Topics ranged from community planning and universal access to care, to advocacy and solutions for eliminating disparities. Dr. William Little,



Above: Networking and collaborations enhance Health Action community partnerships.



Right: NBC-13 meteorologist Jerry Tracey moderates the Health Action Summit.



Interim Surgeon General Steven Galson emphasizes to local kids the importance of healthy lifestyles.



Bree Garrett of Jones Valley Urban Farm receives an award for the Childhood Obesity Task Force.

Executive Director of Sarasota County Health and Human Services, concluded the Summit with strategies to empower collaboration of public health system partners as we work toward health for all.

This inaugural summit proved to be a “thoughtfully provocative” forum for challenging the current thinking and practices within our public health community. Partnerships forged through Health Action and the Health Action Summit were catalysts for a variety of subsequent activities. Some of the programs influenced by the event include: the Birmingham Food Summit, which addressed

equitable access to fresh, healthy foods; Project Homeless Connect which delivered care to Birmingham’s homeless citizens; and the Childhood Obesity Task Force which was presented with an award from Interim Surgeon General Steven Galson for their efforts at reducing childhood obesity in Jefferson County. These and other ongoing efforts demonstrate how the Health Action Summit spurred the type of “community inspired social entrepreneurship” which will improve health for all in our community.

ENCOURAGING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

DISEASE CONTROL

Journeying to a healthier community begins with encouraging and promoting healthy personal decision making and lifestyles. Disease Control Services at JCDH works to protect, promote and enhance the health of the citizens of Jefferson County through vaccination, education, and disease surveillance. Disease Control conducts STD surveillance and treatment, tuberculosis surveillance and treatment and surveillance for all other reportable diseases in Jefferson County. Throughout fiscal year 2008, the Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Clinic saw 13,653 patients, performed 11,889 HIV screening tests and investigated 435 syphilis cases. In addition to the syphilis prevention strategies undertaken by Disease Control, a collaboration with UAB provided a grant to enhance STD surveillance through the National STD Surveillance Network.

The Tuberculosis(TB) Control Division at JCDH treated 28 active tuberculosis cases and evaluated approximately 1600 individuals for latent tuberculosis infection. Disease Control worked in conjunction with area homeless agencies to distribute tuberculosis related educational information and conducted targeted screening efforts to identify infected individuals for treatment at JCDH. A new serological diagnostic screening test, Quantiferon Gold®-TB, was validated by JCDH and UAB and was made available to our clients at reduced cost.

The Prevention and Epidemiology Division investigated over 300 cases of communicable infections in 2008, and worked with the Alabama Department of Public Health to investigate cases of reportable diseases associated with day care centers in the county. Not only did the division engage in disease investigations but was involved in identifying, locating and referring homes for remediation that were identified as potential sources of lead exposure. This work is done in conjunction with a variety of other community organizations.

Preventing disease through immunization remains a cornerstone of a healthy lifestyle. The Immunization Division ascertained the immunization rates of children by conducting 118 school audits and 200 daycare audits. Five local hospitals sponsored eight sites for 90 TotShot clinics which immunized 1,423 children. A collaboration with Shepherd's Watch, offered immunization education activities in area churches. To ensure proper immunization, over 1,000 infants at high risk were identified and tracked; in addition to these high risk infants, 31 maternity patients at risk for Hepatitis B were located, tested and vaccinated, along with their household/sexual contacts. This year, the Immunization Division received renewed funding from the CDC Immunization Action Plan, and was selected as one of three cities to host a public engagement meeting in collaboration with NACCHO, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, Health and Human Services and CDC to determine the scientific agenda for vaccine research.



ENCOURAGING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Syphilis Prevention Strategies

As we move toward a healthier community in Jefferson County, a major focus of 2008 was syphilis prevention. In 2006, the early syphilis rate in Jefferson County

was 36 cases per 100,000 residents, the highest county rate in the United States. To reduce the transmission of syphilis in the county

JCDH focused its syphilis control program on field epidemiology, clinical services and community outreach. According to a recently released CDC report, our 2007 syphilis rate dropped to 25 cases per 100,000 residents, moving from the highest rate to eighth highest. A collaboration between the JCDH Community Health Division and Disease Control developed a public outreach program that included social marketing campaigns addressing behavioral modification engaging local pastors to share these messages with their congregations. Educational efforts were combined with public health service announcements at area high school classrooms. Advertisements regarding prevention, testing and treatment were placed on local busses and billboards. Additionally, health message announcements were made on 3 local radio stations, highlighting syphilis prevention, testing and treatment options. The combination of these efforts led to 683 individuals receiving VDRL syphilis screening tests.

Ongoing prevention strategies also include a partnership with Birmingham Aids in Minorities to provide screenings at the Birmingham and Bessemer City Jails. These efforts identified and treated those infected with syphilis, reducing transmission of syphilis within the community to lower the overall incidence rate. JCDH clinics performed a total of 15,286 VDRL syphilis screening tests, which resulted in about 40% of the reported syphilis diagnoses in the county. Not only were clinic patients diagnosed and treated, disease intervention specialists followed-up with individuals diagnosed outside the JCDH system to ensure appropriate care for these patients and to identify individuals at risk for syphilis exposure.

For further information about syphilis prevention strategies, please see the 2007 Disease Surveillance Summary online at the Policy, Grants and Assessment webpage at <http://www.jcdh.org/PGA/RPHG.aspx>.



Advertising included billboards and ads placed on local buses.

ENCOURAGING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL HEALTH

Healthy lifestyles can only occur when individuals take responsibility for decisions regarding their own health. The Community Health Division seeks to enhance the ability of people to better manage their own health through high quality, innovative education, through public health policy and through best practices in health promotion. Working through effective community engagement to set priorities, make decisions, plan strategies and implement them to achieve better health is the primary function of Community Health. Residents and community organizations help the program identify needs and take action to promote health and prevent disease. The Worksite Wellness program, an example of these efforts, is a collaboration between JCDH and the Employee Insurance Board to provide health assessment, screenings, follow up, health education and risk reduction for employees. Over the year, 8,276 employees were screened, 13, 936 patients were seen, 4,900 flu shots were administered and 650 were referred to other services. Another Community Health sponsored program is "Choosing the Best Life," an abstinence based education program provided to 77,000 middle school and ninth grade students through schools, churches and other organizations.

Healthy schools are a component of healthy communities. In 2008, the Health Officer's Seal of Approval Award acknowledged excellence in areas of health for public school students and staff and to encourage schools in Jefferson County to promote and teach safe and healthy lifestyles. The award is given to schools meeting the following criteria: lunch-room inspection scores of 97 or greater for all 3 inspections during calendar year 2007, a facility sanitation inspection with 2 or fewer deficiencies and no high priority deficiencies based on the EPA Healthy Seat criteria, and an immunization survey score of 97 or greater on the last survey. Of the 174 public schools in Jefferson County, only 18 met the criteria for the Seal of Approval award:



Pizitz Middle	Green Valley Elementary	Corner School
Cahaba Heights Elementary	Bumpus Middle	Hewitt-Trussville High
Vestavia Elementary-East	Trace Crossings Elementary	Rutledge Elementary
Vestavia Elementary-West	Bragg Junior High	AG Gaston K-8
Vestavia High School	Adamsville Elementary	Robinson Elementary
South Shades Crest Elementary	Center Point Elementary	Norwood Elementary

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program works to safeguard the health of low income women, infants and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets. Average monthly participation in the USDA sponsored program is 15,000, with about \$1.2 million in food instruments redeemed monthly at local food stores. Food supplementation with health and nutrition education and assessment is the hallmark of the WIC program, and has been proven to improve birth outcomes and a variety of health measures among participants. During the summer, WIC participants at Northern, Eastern and Central Health Centers were able to receive food instruments (vouchers) for redemption at local farmer's market locations in Jefferson County for fresh fruits and vegetables. Other WIC initiatives include a nationally recognized Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program, which has been successful in increasing breastfeeding rates among low income women. WIC recruits other WIC participants who have a positive breastfeeding experience to serve as peer role models and counselors.

BIRMINGHAM'S HEALTHY START

Encouraging healthy lifestyles to reduce infant mortality, assuring access to care and improving perinatal outcomes of women and infants important of the objectives of the Birmingham Healthy Start program. Program workers employed several strategies to meet these objectives. Strategies include recruiting and maintaining Healthy Start participants in prenatal care, assisting women in complying with recommendations of prenatal care providers, and preventing unintended pregnancy. Other efforts include outreach, home visits and health education activities which served over 1,300 families in 2008. Health fairs and community awareness events reached over 3,000 individuals. Healthy Start efforts have shown success, with program participants reaching infant mortality rates of 8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2007, as compared to the 2007 infant mortality rate of 16 per 1,000 live births among those who reside in the Healthy Start program area and do not participate in the program. The percentage of very low birth weight (<1500 g) births for women in the Healthy Start program was 3.4% of live births, as compared to 4.5% of live births for women not enrolled in the program. Each Healthy Start program participant received prenatal care, with 77.8% of participants receiving adequate prenatal care, and 74% of participants entering prenatal care in the first trimester. Healthy Start partners with a variety of maternal and child health agencies to provide services and in 2008, Birmingham's program was selected to present at the Annual National Healthy Start Educational Conference.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

A step on our journey to health for every citizen of Jefferson County involves livable communities. Livable, healthy communities cannot be attained without a healthy, safe and clean environment. The Environmental Health Services Division of JCDH strives to preserve, protect and enhance the health of the environment and to promote livable communities in Jefferson County.

Public Health Regulations and Standards

Over the past year, JCDH has worked to enforce the public health regulations and standards that are the foundation for livable communities. The Air and Radiation Protection Division regulates air emission sources and enforces regulations for ionizing radiation devices and tanning salons. Air and Radiation Protection publishes daily air quality indexes to provide access to near real time air quality data from monitoring sites, and these are used to issue a daily air quality forecast, <http://www.jcdh.org/EH/AnR/AnR03.aspx>. To assess the levels of air toxics within Jefferson County, the Division, in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency, University of Alabama in Huntsville and the Battelle Corporation, undertook an air toxics assess-

ment study with results expected to be made available to the public in early 2009.

Food safety and sanitary lodging is an integral part of a livable community. To

ensure food safety for the community, the Food and Lodging Protection Division inspected 9,611 food service facilities, 42 temporary events and conducted 174 foodborne illness investigations. Food safety is not only ensured through inspections, but through the proper training of food handlers. In 2008, 18,180 food handlers were trained through food safety classes taught at JCDH. The division is also working to meet the standards set forth by the FDA's National Voluntary Standards program.

Regulations relating to sewage disposal, swimming pools and body art facilities are enforced through the Community Environmental Protection Division. The division performed 65 mobile home park inspections, 18 garbage hauler inspections, four solid waste transfer station inspections, and 29 body art facility inspections. To locate and resolve nuisances in the community, the division investigated 1,655 nuisance complaints and 1,067 animal exposures. In an effort to ensure proper maintenance and operation of household and commercial septic systems, the division performed 854 onsite sewage disposal inspections.

AQI Levels of Health Concern	AQI Values	What Action Should People Take?
Good	0-50	Enjoy Activities
Moderate	51-100	People unusually sensitive to air pollution: Plan strenuous outside activities when air quality is better
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101-150	Sensitive Groups: Cut back or reschedule strenuous outside activities Particle Pollutants: People with heart or lung disease (including asthma), older adults, and children Ozone: Active children and adults and people with lung disease
Unhealthy	151-200	Everyone: Cut back or reschedule strenuous outside activities Sensitive groups: Avoid strenuous outside activities
Very Unhealthy	201-300	Everyone: Significantly cut back on outside physical activities Sensitive groups: Avoid all outside physical activities

LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES

Projects and Partnerships

Enforcing regulations is not the only way JCDH works toward livable communities within Jefferson County. Projects and partnerships are another important component of addressing environmental concerns. In order to address mosquito control in the Harriman Park and Collegeville neighborhoods, the Community Assessment Division has partnered with a variety of agencies to train and educate the community about mosquito control. Through this project, 20,887 mosquitoes were trapped and identified, 913 people were educated by outreach activities and 310 backpacks with mosquito control information were distributed to Hudson Elementary school students.

Mosquitoes are not the only vectors that pose a threat to health. In 2008, the Community Environmental Protection Division worked with the USDA, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alabama Department of Public Health to place over 88,000 vaccine impregnated baits to immunize raccoons against rabies in Jefferson and Shelby counties. Personnel from this division were asked to speak about rabies and animal exposure investigations at the Alabama Animal Control Association Annual Meeting.

Both the Community Assessment Division and the Community Environmental Protection Division became involved with projects for clean community environments. A social marketing campaign using social websites and cable television to educate 16-to-30-year olds on litter and litter



reduction was a project initiated by the Environmental Quality Committee formed as a part of the Health Action process. The Community Assessment Division assisted in its production and promotion. As another project, the Community Environmental Protection

Division oversaw the installation of 38 new on-site sewage disposal systems in the Sayre Camp community, following the closing of the community's sewage treatment plant.

Included in the Sayre Camp Community project, a partnership with the Jefferson County Office of Land Development accomplished a community solid waste clean-up.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

A healthy community must always be prepared for natural and manmade disasters, which have the potential to devastate communities. Preparing for these emergencies assures that our communities can not only survive but remain livable in the midst of crisis. The mission of the Emergency Preparedness and Response division of JCDH is to provide community education; to promote an all-hazards approach to emergency preparedness in collaboration with businesses, private and public organizations, and first response partners to ensure an appropriate response to events that may affect the public health and welfare of the people of Jefferson County.

In 2008, the Emergency Preparedness Division managed the federal All Hazards grant, the Pandemic Influenza grant and the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) grant. Recognizing the importance of educating the public about hazards, the division distributed information at more than 50 community events and presentations. Educational materials teaching parents and children about the importance of preparing an emergency kit at home were provided to each school system and other local children's organizations. Influenza prevention materials were also provided, through a partnership with the Health Wise Program, allocating 2,700 flu shots in Jefferson County public schools. Personnel took part in a series of statewide conferences, attended by more than 1,500 participants, addressing "Fatality Management during a Pandemic and Other Emergencies."



Training emergency management teams to maintain maximum levels of community safety and health is an important element of a livable community. Representatives from JCDH, traveled to the Emergency Management Institute located in Emmitsburg, Maryland to participate in the Shake, Rattle and Crumble Exercise. This FEMA exercise provided the opportunity for key partners to execute emergency response and recovery plans based on a 5.0 Richter magnitude earthquake scenario.

In September, Hurricane Gustav provided JCDH the opportunity to serve the public and provide care for citizens affected by the storm. During the events of Hurricane Gustav, the Emergency Preparedness Division was responsible for the management of the Public Health Branch of the Emergency Operations Center at the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency. These emergency activities included activation of a medical needs shelter and coordination of public health operations in the mass care shelters opened for displaced evacuees.

CLINICAL SERVICES

Improving community health involves increasing access to care in Jefferson County. In fiscal year 2008, the Clinical Services Division demonstrated its commitment to provide patient health care services to Jefferson County's underinsured and uninsured residents. Primary care clinical services were provided to 23,659 children and 4,541 adults at our health centers. Family planning services were provided to 14,613 women throughout the county. A collaborative effort with Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority has allowed for the provision of mental health services to over 60 children and adolescents who otherwise would have had no access or delayed access to mental health care. Collaboration with Metropolitan Birmingham Services for the Homeless to sponsor the Homeless Connect event, allowed for access to care and identification of individuals who do not possess the documentation for address verification that is normally required for care. A significant barrier to care was addressed by working with community agencies to develop and distribute flyers to community residents regarding insurance options and ways to locate local health care providers. In partnership with numerous community health organizations, funding was obtained to support the cost of ads promoting available health services on city buses.



Ensuring Access to Care through Care Coordination

Health care services are not the only ways JCDH works to improve access to care. A team of care coordinators provides guidance and assistance for patients with psychosocial needs through referrals to community service agencies and develops and promotes public health partnerships among agencies serving special populations. These care coordinators secure needed resources and services for Medicaid patients; activities which include referrals to social service agencies, assistance with Medicaid/Allkids applications and advocacy for special needs populations. Care coordinators provided services for 6,080 children and adults. These services include reproductive health risk screening and education for women of childbearing age, arranging transportation to specialty care clinic for patients needing assistance and a variety of other interventions aimed at resolving or reducing barriers to care.

ENSURING ACCESS TO CARE

DENTAL HEALTH

JCDH's Dental Health program is committed to increasing access to services. Its mission is to provide comprehensive dentistry to low income residents of Jefferson County, educate the population on the causes and prevention of chronic dental diseases and to serve as a resource for the community to address dental health needs and concerns. The dental clinics at Bessemer, Central, Eastern and Western Health Centers treated over 6,000 patients in 2008. In partnership with public school systems throughout the county, a mobile dental program served 807 underserved school age children, with mobile clinics in operation 164 day, over double the number of days the clinic operated in 2007. Dental services were also provided to 62 residents of the Ketona Nursing Home through a partnership with the Jefferson Rehabilitation and Health Center. Through collaboration with United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Birmingham, grant funding provided dental care for 36 underserved special needs patients in the LincPoint facility between August and September. Project Homeless Connect provided an opportunity for free emergency dental exams and extractions to 120 individuals. Since this event in March, Dental Health subsequently treated 49

homeless patients in its clinics. Dental Health has partnered with a variety of organizations to provide free dental screenings at other community sponsored events, including the annual Fiesta for the Latino community, the Eastern Area Coalition for Health event, the 2008 Family Expo, Take a Child to the Doctor day event and the NBC Health and Wellness event. In February, Children's Dental Health month, the Dental Health division designed and distributed dental brochures with free dental exam vouchers for persons under the age of 20.



Children at a local elementary school participate in health and dental screenings.



POLICY, GRANTS AND ASSESSMENT

Health in Jefferson County, depends not only on the work of the health department to encourage healthy lifestyles, ensure livable communities and access to care, but also on our ability to promote policies for healthy change that ensure the viability of essential programs. This commitment is demonstrated by the Policy, Grants and Assessment division, whose mission is to develop policy; assure quality data and improve performance through evidence and quality improvement measures; preserve public health programs and partnerships and obtain funding sources to strengthen the local public health system. As the primary source for data dissemination for JCDH program areas and the Health Action initiative, the Policy, Grants and Assessment Division has assisted in producing data for a variety of projects, both within the organization and for community partners. The division was involved with data collection and analysis, as well as authorship for the 2007 Annual Report and the 2007 Disease Surveillance Summary; public access to these publications is maintained by linkage to the JCDH website, <http://www.jcdh.org/PGA/RPHG.aspx>.

Oversight of the 2008 Community Health Grants was undertaken by Policy, Grants and Assessment. The division, in a joint venture with the Junior League, allocated a total of \$50,000 to seven organizations for projects to improve the health of Jefferson County citizens. The award recipients below have formed partnerships that support the mission and initiatives of each organization. Funding was provided to the following organizations:

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES:

Outpatient Mental Health Services for Women and Children\$10,000

To provide outpatient psychiatric services to uninsured, or underinsured, women and children who reside in Jefferson County and to reduce psychiatric symptoms of those women and children referred for these services.

GIRLS INCORPORATED OF CENTRAL ALABAMA

Preventing Adolescent Pregnancy Program\$10,000

To empower girls ages 12 to 18 with the skills, values, motivation and support to postpone sexual activity, and use effective protection to avoid pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Funds will also be distributed to assist Hispanic girls and their mothers to develop effective communication skills to discuss sexuality issues affecting teens.

HAND IN PAW, INC

Pawsitive Living\$4,000

To improve the health and well being of women and children through animal enhanced therapy which teaches anger management, builds social and emotional skills, increases compassion for people and animals and teaches personal responsibility for safe, healthy lifestyle choices.

Continued on page 16

TAKING ACTION: PUBLIC POLICY

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

JEFFERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Jefferson County Schools Pulse Oximeters\$5,000

To purchase 56 pulse oximeters, which will help school nurses assess and treat more than 3,000 students in the Jefferson County School System who have a diagnosis of asthma and other respiratory conditions.

FREEDOM RAIN, INC AND THE LOVELADY CENTER

The Lovelady Center Nutrition and Exercise Program.....\$4,000

To offer center residents a nutrition and exercise program focused on improved health, reduction of chronic disease development and management of existing conditions.

DISCOVERY 2000, INC D/B/A MCWANE SCIENCE CENTER

Science of Health Exhibits\$10,000

To provide students in Jefferson County with educational programs which teach about individual health and wellness through the demonstration of an interactive Body Works exhibit. The exhibit will demonstrate the impact that eating, exercise, stress and general lifestyle choices have on normal body systems.

MEDIA FOR HEALTH

BodyLove\$7,000

To air a radio soap opera aimed at reducing chronic disease risk factors for diabetes, heart disease, hypertension and obesity among residents of Jefferson County.

Public Policy Success

Environmental Health Services worked with the court system and the Office of Land Development for Jefferson County to develop policy for a sustainable method for litter pick up. This program –Operation Clean Sweep, approved in 2008 –assigns areas of roadways in Jefferson County to probationers to keep free of litter.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Supporting Public Health Services

Service to the public through sustaining its public health workforce is an important aspect of our commitment to the citizens of Jefferson County. To serve the public health workforce at JCDH, the General Services Department provides building maintenance, facilities services, a print shop, a motor pool and security for JCDH employees. During Hurricane Gustav, the Division provided logistical services for the medical needs shelter operated by JCDH. General Services also provided expertise necessary for the construction of the new Eastern Health Center. Printing services are a valuable resource to employees serving the public's needs. Over 10,000 copies of the educational and informational Food Handler Training Booklet were printed for the training of food handlers in Jefferson County, color pamphlets and packets were provided to numerous divisions for a variety of events. Safe, reliable transportation is provided to employees as they go into the field through the 125 vehicles maintained in the motor pool.

Providing Vital Records

To serve the public, the Bureau of Vital Statistics issues birth, death, marriage and divorce records to the public. Approximately 7,000 death certificates were filed through the statewide certification system in 2008. Partnerships with the Alabama Department of Health, local funeral homes, police departments and the coroner's office ensure that all death certificates are filed in an accurate and timely manner. In 2008, 111,000 birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates were issued, excluding birth certificates provided for Medicaid.

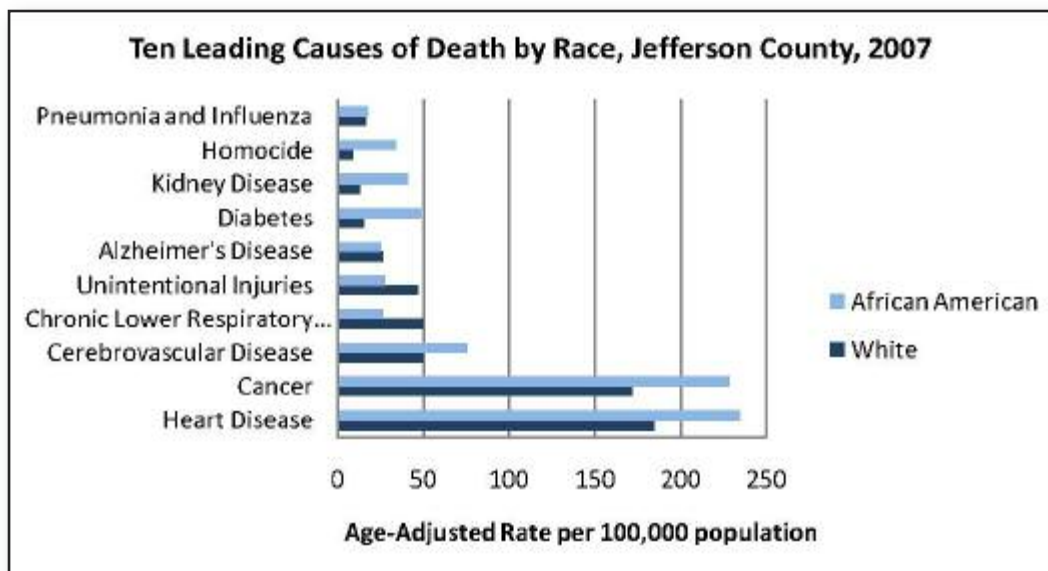
SELECTED HEALTH STATISTICS, 2007

Population by Age (2007 Census Bureau estimates)

<1 year ¹	9,676
1-14 years	121,419
15-24 years	89,724
25-64 years	349,596
65 years and older	88,364
Total population	658,779

Chronic Diseases Age-adjusted mortality rate

	Rate per 100,000	10-year trend
Heart disease	200.7	↓
Cancer	187.9	↓
Stroke	57.7	↓
Alzheimer's disease	26.3	↑
Diabetes	26.0	↓



¹ 2007 Number of live births in Jefferson County

SELECTED HEALTH STATISTICS, 2007

Maternal and Child Health

(NUMBER AND RATE OR PERCENT)

	Number	Jefferson County	Alabama ²
Live Births	9,676	62.4 per 1,000 women 10-44	58.7 per 1,000 women 10-44
Low Birthweight Births (<2500 g)	1,129	11.7% of live births	10.4% of live births
Very Low Birthweight Births (<1500 g)	238	2.5% of live births	2.1% of live births
Live Births to Teens	1,146	51.0 per 1,000 women age 15-19	54.6 per 1,000 women age 15-19
Infant Mortality	95	9.8 per 1,000 live births	10.0 per 1,000 live births

Communicable Diseases

(RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION)

	Jefferson County	Alabama ³	United States ³
Chlamydia	934.7	546.9	370.2
Gonorrhea	435.7	236.7	118.9
Syphilis (primary & secondary)	25.0	8.3	3.8
Tuberculosis	5.1	3.8	4.4

Injuries and Crime

(RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION)

	Number	Jefferson County ⁴	Alabama ⁴	United States ⁵
Homicide	109	18.0	8.5	5.6
Rape	348	57.0	58.5	30.0
Robbery	2,381	392.0	151.0	147.6
Assault	2,298	379.0	238.1	283.8
Drug overdose deaths ⁶	89	13.5	NA	NA
Motor vehicle crash deaths ^{6,7}	79	12.0	NA	NA

1. 2007 number of live births in Jefferson County.
2. Rates are based on 2007 population projections. Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH); www.adph.org/healthstats
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); www.cdc.gov
4. Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center, Statistical Analysis Center, 2007 Crime in Alabama; <http://acjic.state.al.us>.
5. Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2007 Crime in the United States; <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>
6. Jefferson County Coroner/Medical Examiner's Office
7. Including pedestrians hit by a car, 55 (69.6%) of motor vehicle crash deaths were due to intoxication.

GENERAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

REVENUES

1. Advalorem Tax Revenue (17% of budgeted revenues)

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 advalorem taxes collected within the County excluding advalorem taxes collected for the State of Alabama and all Boards of Education located in the County.

For the last nine years JCDH has received a level sum of \$7,454,400, which is approximately 3% of the total advalorem tax. This is forwarded to JCDH as the taxes are collected therefore approximately 100% is received during the months of December, January and February of each year.

2. Sales Tax Revenue (41% of budgeted revenues)

The total amount of sales tax collected by the County (1%) is divided equally.

First half of 1%:

1.5% to General Fund for collection costs (off the top)

9.0% (after collection costs) to JCDH

Balance to Indigent Care Fund

Second half of 1%:

The first \$1,200,000 is allocated to the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center.

31.0% of remainder to JCDH

69.0% of remainder to General Fund

JCDH receives 18- 20% of the total County sales tax which generally equates to \$18,500,000 per year.

3. State & Federal Contracts (7% of budgeted revenues)

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

GENERAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

4. Clinical Health Care Revenue (19% of budgeted revenues)

This category represents the amount of reimbursement received for all clinical related services provided by the Department. These services include pediatric and adult primary care, family planning, and clinic dental care.

A sliding fee schedule is used within the Health Centers to determine the amount (if any) of fees due from the patients. JCDH receives approximately 12% of the reimbursement from patients, 85% from Medicaid, 2% from Blue Cross, and the remaining 1% from all other payers combined (e.g., Medicare, etc.)

5. Environmental Health Services (8% of budgeted revenues)

This category represents reimbursement received (primarily) for Environmental Health (EH) services. State Law allows fees to be charged for many of the services provided by the EH staff such as restaurant inspections, septic system plans and inspections, air pollution permit fees, open burning permits, radiological equipment inspection and food handler training. Also included in this category are fees received for copies of vital records.

6. Other Revenue (8% of budgeted revenues)

This category is primarily reimbursement received for indirect costs (administration and building overhead) associated with Federal grants and contracts such as Healthy Start, WIC, Air Pollution, etc. Also included here are allowable fines levied for violation of public health laws (e.g., air pollution violations), rental fees and parking lot and meter receipts. This category also includes earnings and changes in the market value of the Department's cash and investments. All investments are based on a Board of Health approved Investment Policy that strictly follows State and County guidelines.

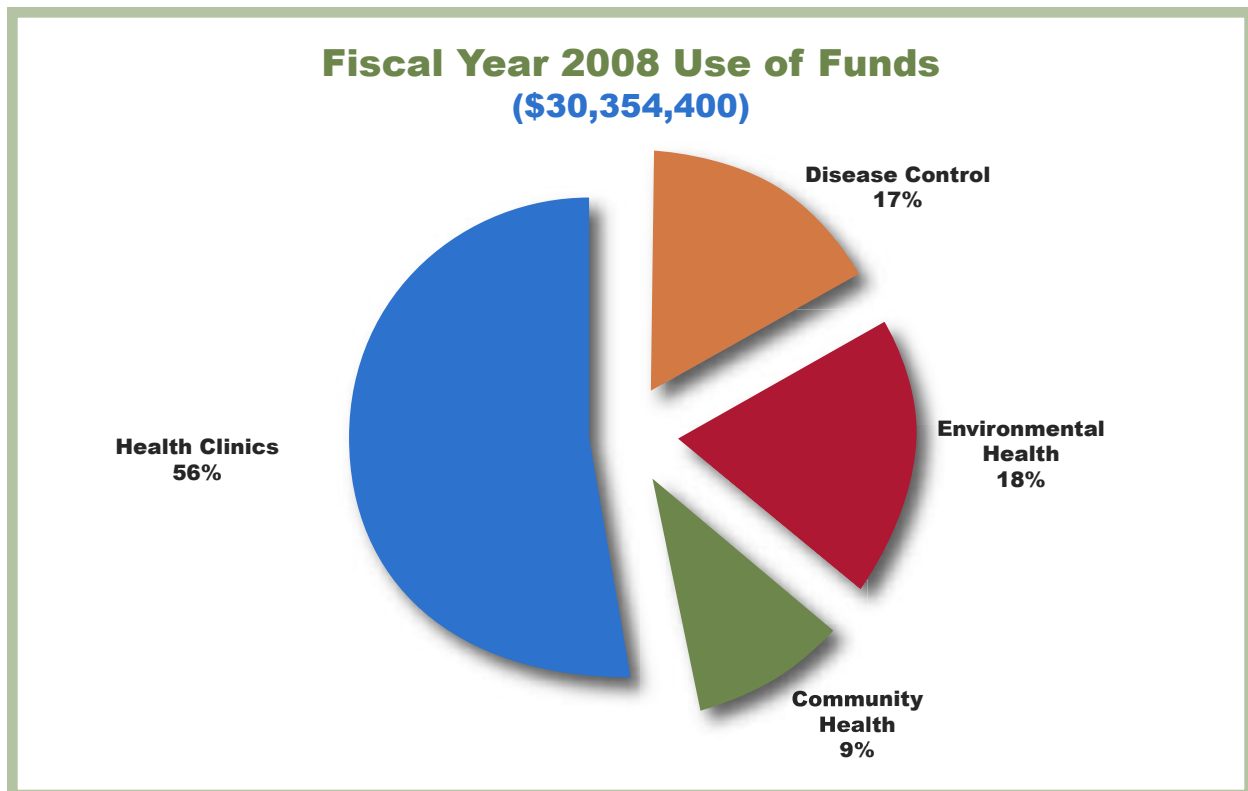
GENERAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

EXPENSES

Expenses are generally classified by major public health program with administrative costs and the capital fund transfer separately identified. The general fund budgeted program costs for fiscal year 2008 include:

* Salaries and benefits	\$32,875,200	68%
* Materials and Supplies	\$7,944,600	17%
* Contract services	\$2,475,500	5%
* Capital project fund	<u>\$4,837,000</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	\$48,132,300	100%

The Department also has eight active Special Revenue Funds expected to total \$5,048,900. These funds are operated in accordance with the funding requirements of special grants and appropriations.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

Thanks to all who assisted in compiling and authoring this report:

Michael Fleenor, MD, MPH
Health Officer, Jefferson County

Claude Ouimet, MD
Deputy Health Officer, Jefferson County

Elisabeth Welty, MPH
Policy, Grants and Assessment

Gregory Townsend
Policy, Grants and Assessment

Birmingham Healthy Start:
Rickey Green
Administrator, Birmingham Healthy Start

Environmental Health:
Wayne Studyvin, PE, MSCE
Director, Environmental Health

Clinical Services:
Stephen Mallard, MD
Medical Director, Clinical Services

Barbara Newman, MPH
Environmental Health

Cathy Johnson, RN
Clinical Services

Finance and Administration:
Gwen Veras, CPA
Director, Finance and Administration

Connie Arnwine
Clinical Services

Allen Godfrey
General Services

Community and Dental Health:
Teri Chafin, DMD, MPH
Director, Community and Dental Health

Judy Madison, CPA
Finance and Administration

Wanda Heard
Community and Dental Health

Office of Management and Information:
Peggy Tineo
Vital Records

Disease Control:
Elizabeth Turnipseed, MD, MPH
Director, Disease Control

Policy, Grants and Assessment:
Gayle Winston, RN, MSN
Director, Policy, Grants and Assessment

Jim Mangum, MPA, MPH
Disease Control

Richard Sinsky, DrPH
Policy, Grants and Assessment

Emergency Preparedness:
Heather Hogue, PharmD
Director, Emergency Preparedness

Devon Taylor, MPH
Policy, Grants and Assessment

Jesse Tucker, MPH
Policy, Grants and Assessment

This report was prepared by the Policy, Grants and Assessment Division of the Jefferson County Health Department, Jefferson County, Alabama.



JEFFERSON COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
WWW.JCDH.ORG