

# Reinforcing Our Foundations



**Jefferson County Department of Health  
2011 Annual Report**

# Reinforcing Our Foundations

## **Jefferson County Board of Health**

January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011

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# Letter from the Past Health Officer

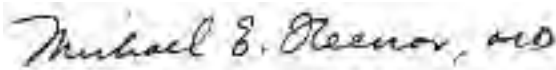
Assessment, policy development and assurance are crucial public health functions which have guided Jefferson County Department of Health's vision and strategic planning, created the organization's past success and are the foundation from which JCDH will continue to improve the health of its community.

Using the assessment process, JCDH gains a current view of public health needs within the community. A community-wide public health assessment completed in 2005 and updated in 2011 provides a roadmap to community health. In 2011, a strategic planning process supplied the building blocks guiding the Department's operations in improving the community's health. This strategic planning process included comprehensive assessments of the community and JCDH. To maximize the health of all citizens, ongoing assessment is required to determine priorities and measure success.

The second core function of public health, policy development, accelerates the path to optimal health. Throughout my tenure as Health Officer, numerous policies have been enacted in achieving the vision for public health in Jefferson County. Particularly rewarding in 2011, were the smoke-free policies implemented by several local municipalities. Through the continued policy development efforts of JCDH and its partners, the community's health has been and will continue to be enhanced.

Assurance is the third core function of public health. JCDH provides assurance to the community through effective community partnerships, tackling the root causes of health problems, preparing for national Public Health Accreditation, enhancing quality improvement activities, providing public health services, and by designing, constructing and supporting the infrastructure for public health.

It has been an honor to serve as Jefferson County's Health Officer from 2001 to 2011, and I am confident JCDH will continue its 94 year tradition of excellence in public health.



Michael E. Fleenor, MD, MPH

Health Officer, 2001 - 2011

# Letter from the Present Health Officer



Effective October 1, 2011, I was chosen by the Jefferson County Board of Health to be the new Jefferson County Health Officer, replacing Dr. Michael Fleenor who retired after serving for 10 years as Health Officer and had a much longer career in public health. We are all greatly indebted to Dr. Fleenor for the spectacular work he did in keeping the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) abreast of the many changes occurring in the public health world, and in giving JCDH an undisputed reputation as one of the best local health departments in the nation. His shoes will be difficult to fill, but I feel confident that this is the place for me to best serve our community. I consider myself fortunate to be joining such a great team of knowledgeable and experienced public health professionals.

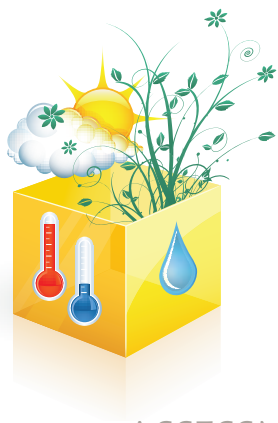
I have been a friend of JCDH for many years, as I often collaborated with JCDH medical staff and leadership while I served Cooper Green Mercy Hospital, just across the street. I became even more involved with the work of JCDH when I became a member of the Board of Health in 2009. As is evident in this annual report, the work of our Health Department is amazingly broad and varied, with many great accomplishments to celebrate.

I love Jefferson County and its rich history and cultural diversity. It is a community that also faces many challenges. Most of these challenges, either directly or indirectly, have something to do with public health. While it can be discouraging at times to see statistics such as high obesity rates or racial/ethnic disparities in health, I am hopeful that we can see our community blossom into a community that is healthier and more livable for everyone as we cultivate the seeds already planted by JCDH and its growing number of partners and look for new opportunities to plant more seeds for positive, healthy change.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Wilson, MD".

Mark E. Wilson, MD

Health Officer



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# Environmental Health

### ASSESSMENT

In 2011, the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) **Environmental Health Division** continued to conduct assessments of the health of the environment. These assessments included ambient air quality measurements based upon federal standards, air quality compliance reviews, and inspections of x-ray facilities and tanning devices. Compliance with sewage, swimming pool, body art/tattoo parlor, overnight lodging facility, communal living facility, child daycare center and food establishment regulations were evaluated through site visits and facility inspections. To assess community rabies exposure, JCDH investigated confirmed reports of animal bites or scratches. Water quality in Jefferson County was analyzed through sampling and testing.

The Environmental Health Services Division received a Model Practice Award from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) in 2011 for developing and implementing a service collaborative to abate public health nuisances and revitalize the community. The environmental health and safety assessment of the Robinwood community conducted by JCDH guided the collaboration that identified the community revitalization activities. This collaboration demonstrated a unique and innovative approach to assessing and reducing public health concerns within a local community.

In partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), JCDH continued assessment of air toxics pollutant exposure in North Birmingham through ambient air monitoring. Information regarding the air toxics assessment was shared with North Birmingham community residents and leaders.

Litter management remained a focal area in 2011. A litter assessment conducted through sampling 28 sites located throughout Jefferson County resulted in the collection of 766 pounds of litter. To better understand littering practices among young people, focus groups were conducted with students from Hewitt-Trussville High School. Students brainstormed methods for reducing littering among teens. Using information attained from previous litter assessments, JCDH partnered with Jefferson County's Office of Land Development, Roads and Transportation Division and Circuit Courts to develop the Clean Sweep Program. The Clean Sweep program assigns sections of roadway





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# Environmental Health



for litter removal to court ordered probationers. This innovative program also received a Model Practice Award in 2011 from NACCHO.

In partnership with the Jefferson County Land Planning and Zoning Division, a technique which organizes and combines thoughts from the public and subject matter experts was utilized to direct rebuilding in the McDonald Chapel, Concord and Smithfield Manor communities following the April 27, 2011 tornadoes.

## POLICY AND REGULATION DEVELOPMENT

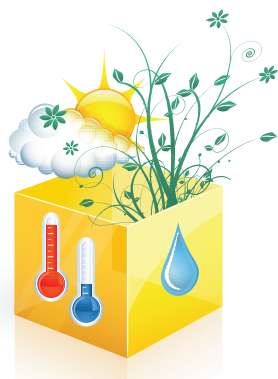


To promote healthy environments in which Jefferson County citizens can live, learn, work and play, new policies and regulations were developed to address environmental health issues. Comprehensive child care center regulations written in collaboration with Child Care Resources and the United Way of Central Alabama were adopted by the Jefferson County Board of Health in September 2011. These regulations were designed to improve the health

and safety of the over 17,000 Jefferson County children served in child care settings. During the year, the Jefferson County Board of Health also approved an initiative to educate tobacco users of the risks associated with tobacco use and to provide information regarding tobacco cessation services. To encourage food establishments in educating the public on the hazards of tobacco use, the Jefferson County Board of Health approved the awarding of two bonus points during JCDH food safety inspections for food establishments conspicuously displaying graphic tobacco education posters.

Pool/Spa regulations were revised in 2011 to enhance public health and safety. To protect the public from lead poisoning, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) began enforcement of the EPA's new Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule in November 2010. In support of this lead poisoning prevention effort, JCDH provided a lead seminar and sponsored an EPA Lead Based Paint Symposium for Jefferson County's construction





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# Environmental Health

workers and insurance and real estate companies. In collaboration with JCDH, local Home Depot hardware stores displayed and distributed information regarding the Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule. By developing and enforcing environmental health policies, JCDH helps ensure the public's health.

### ASSURANCE

During 2011, Environmental Health Services continued to inspect and permit numerous Jefferson County institutions and facilities and respond to citizen's complaints. The table on the right displays permitting, inspection and complaint management activity conducted during the year.

JCDH utilizes environmental health education in assuring public health. In 2011, JCDH conducted 554 food handler training courses and 31 managerial level food safety classes. To provide a convenient alternative for in-person food handler course completion, JCDH initiated an online food handler training course in 2011. Two in-person Certified Pool/Spa Operator courses, four Erosion and Sediment Control workshops, and Storm Water Standard Operating Procedure Manual training was also offered. Information on mosquito prevention was disseminated within the Collegeville, Harriman Park and Fairmont communities by canvassing over 1,000 homes with informational door hangers and distributing 1,200 backpacks containing mosquito prevention strategies to Hudson and Calloway School students. Mosquito prevention education was additionally provided at Northside Church of God, McWane Science Center and through monthly neighborhood meetings in the Collegeville and Fairmont neighborhoods in North Birmingham. JCDH conducted education and community outreach regarding environmental sources of lead

#### Permits

Type	Number of Permits Issued
Food & Lodging Facility	393
Air Pollution Generating Facility	172
Mobile Home Park	57
Body Art Facility	25
<b>Total Permits Issued</b>	<b>647</b>

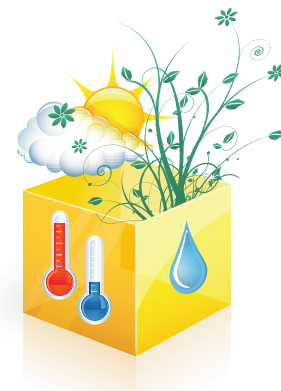
#### Inspections

Type	Number of Inspections
Food Service	13,243
Erosion and Sedimentation	13,200
Pool/Spa	2,836
X-Ray Equipment	969
Onsite Sewage Disposal	885
Lodging	350
Storm Water Sampling	220
Mobile Home Park	114
Food Processing	74
Air Pollution Generating Facility	57
Body Art Facility	35
Temporary Food Event	35
Garbage Hauler	17
Solid Waste Hauler	17
Transfer Station	2
<b>Total Inspections Completed</b>	<b>32,054</b>

#### Complaint Investigation

Type	Complaints Investigated
Sanitation	2,670
Food & Lodging	981
Animal Exposure	950
Onsite Sewage Disposal	827
Air Pollution Control	313
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>5,741</b>

# Environmental Health



and lead poisoning prevention to employees of the lead industry, homeless women and children, medical care providers, social workers, pregnant women living in houses built prior to 1978 and grandparents caring for grandchildren.

Public health assurance included initiatives to keep communities clean. During a three day event in August 2011, JCDH Environmental Health staff, Public Works employees from Midfield, Fairfield, Hueytown, Besse-

mer, Brighton, Lipscomb and Pleasant Grove along with over 200 community volunteers removed 24 tons of trash and debris from Valley Creek. In the Collegeville neighborhood, a neighborhood trash and tire clean up resulted in the collection and proper disposal of 100 abandoned tires.

During 2011, Jefferson County reached attainment of all EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standards. This achievement was the result of JCDH's partnership with federal agencies and local industry.







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# Policy, Grants & Assessment

### ASSESSMENT

The **Policy, Grants and Assessment Division** provides public health data internally and externally supporting informed decisions reflective of the best practices in public health. Providing real-time obesity and oral health status data, and the development of calculators to compare mortality rates among communities and populations are examples of the types of assessment data provided. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software utilized to map Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) patient residences determined a centrally located site for JCDH's future Western Health Center. The May/June 2012 issue of *Public Health Reports* features an article describing this innovative use of GIS technology in locating a public health facility. This work was also highlighted during the June 2011 Academy Health Annual Meeting.



### ASSURANCE

Prior to the state-wide implementation of the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act in September 2011, the impact of the broad-reaching law on JCDH services was analyzed. Procedures were developed and implemented internally to ensure compliance with the law. These procedures have also been utilized to inform other agencies of practices meeting the law's requirements.



In 2011, JCDH initiated exploration of the feasibility and advisability of applying for Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or FQHC Look-Alike status as an alternative funding mechanism for clinical services.

To assure high quality patient care, JCDH and Samford University's McWhorter School of Pharmacy continued a collaborative focus on controlling diabetes among high-risk patients. This effort resulted in national recognition through the Health Resources and Service Administration's Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services Collaborative for quality leadership and improvement in patient health outcomes. Policy, Grants and Assessment additionally supported quality patient care through the creation of an

# Policy, Grants & Assessment



asthma registry used to improve the identification and management of patients with asthma. The design and use of JCDH's asthma registry was presented to the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Quality Network in August 2011.

Satisfaction among patients was evaluated throughout 2011 using an ongoing patient satisfaction survey and evaluation process. In August 2011, the Journal of Healthcare Quality published "Patient Satisfaction among Spanish Speaking Patients in a Public Health Setting," co-written with the UAB School of Public Health, highlighting the differences in service satisfaction among JCDH's Spanish speaking and English speaking patients.

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is the voluntary public health accreditation organization advancing public health performance through the provision of a national framework of standards for health departments. To assist JCDH in meeting or exceeding the established standards, a Statement of Intent to apply for accreditation through PHAB was submitted in December 2011. Preparation for accreditation through internal evaluation and rigorous data collection to document the achievement of the many PHAB standards was a focal area during 2011.





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# Community Health

### ASSESSMENT

One of the core functions of public health, assessment, is an important service of the **Community Health Division**. In 2011, the Worksite Wellness collaboration between the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the State Employee Insurance Board provided health assessment for state and county employees through screenings, referrals, health education and risk reduction services.

#### 2011 Worksite Wellness Patient Outcomes

**3,206** employee health screenings

**3,705** flu shots administered

**486** Hepatitis A & B shots administered

**559** referrals for other services provided

The Community Health Division conducts annual assessments of public and private Jefferson County schools to promote and recognize healthy school environments through the Health Officer's Seal of Approval Award process. This recognition is given to schools receiving lunchroom inspection scores of 97 or higher, having a facility sanitation room inspection resulting in 2 or fewer deficiencies with no high priority items and scoring 97% or higher on the previous immunization survey. Fourteen Jefferson County schools received the 2011 Health Officer's Seal of Approval Award. Those schools awarded the Seal of Approval become eligible to receive the Health Officer's Healthy School Award of Excellence which recognizes the 3 schools achieving the highest scores on the more rigorous standards established by

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's School Health Index and the Environmental Protection Agency's Healthy Seat Program. The 2011 gold, silver and bronze winners of the Health Officer's Healthy School Award of Excellence were:

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's School Health Index and the Environmental Protection Agency's Healthy Seat Program. The 2011 gold, silver and bronze winners of the Health Officer's Healthy School Award of Excellence were:

#### **Gold:**

Louis Pizitz Middle School (Vestavia Hills City Schools)

#### **Silver:**

John E. Bryan Elementary (Jefferson County Schools)

#### **Bronze:**

Minor Community School (Jefferson County Schools).



At left: Pizitz Middle School staff holds the Gold award flag.



# Communities Putting Prevention to Work

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Policy development is a core function of public health and serves as a platform for addressing Jefferson County's health concerns. Through federal funding from the **Communities Putting Prevention to Work** (CPPW) initiative, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) achieved significant success in policy development surrounding obesity prevention/reduction and tobacco use. In 2011, Fultondale and Midfield passed tobacco ordinances prohibiting smoking in enclosed public places. Enforcement of these smoke-free policies protects the over 13,000 residents of these cities from secondhand smoke. In a public opinion poll gauging public support for smoke-free policies, 76% of the 600 Jefferson County voters surveyed supported policies prohibiting indoor smoking. Additional support for smoke-free policies was received from the results of a study performed in collaboration with the Roswell Cancer Park Institute highlighting the differences in 2.5mm particulate matter levels between smoking and smoke-free venues. As part of an educational initiative to increase awareness of secondhand smoke exposure risks, JCDH sponsored the "820 Souls Campaign" which collected and displayed a pair of shoes to represent each of the 820 Alabamians who died last year as a result of secondhand smoke exposure.



Robinson Elementary School students participate in the "Walking School Bus."

Policy development and additional activities designed to reduce obesity continued in 2011 as a focal area for JCDH and the Health Action Partnership. The "Our One Mile" Greenway Master Plan designed to increase physical activity by connecting existing parks and trails in Jefferson County received the commitment and support of local municipalities. Greenways and trails, as well as "complete streets," streets designed to accommodate all users—pedestrians, motorists, transportation riders and cyclists, provide opportunities for physical activity and economic development. The Birmingham Planning Commission in 2011 passed a resolution to implement complete street design. To assist neighborhoods in enhancing safety and health, the Safe Routes to Schools "Walking School Bus" program was implemented, providing a safe and fun way for students living in at-risk neighborhoods to walk to and from school. Three Jefferson County schools currently host the walking school bus program which has been enthusiastically received by children and parents.

School policy remains a key strategy for addressing childhood obesity. In addition to support letters submitted by over 600 community members and participation by school leaders in school wellness policy workshops, the Jefferson County Public School System revised its school wellness policies which, in turn, will assist in decreasing childhood obesity.





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# Clinical Services

### ASSURANCE

In fulfilling the core public health function of assuring the health of Jefferson County citizens, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) provides primary care, case management, family planning and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) through its **Clinical Services Division**.

Case managers serve as the primary interface between the patient and community services by assisting citizens with Medicaid applications, providing referrals to community resources, and rendering advocacy services for 5,569 JCDH patients. In collaboration with Medicaid and the Alabama Department of Public Health, at-risk and special needs infants receive referral for care coordination via a web-based system, and the patient's outcomes are tracked through JCDH's electronic medical record. In collaboration with the UAB School of Optometry, Cooper Green Mercy Hospital Pharmacy and the Jefferson-Blount-St. Clair Mental Health Authority, vision care, more affordable medications and mental health services are provided for JCDH patients. Diabetes education and smoking cessation clinics are offered in partnership with Samford University's McWhorter School of Pharmacy. In 2011, JCDH received funding from the American Pharmacists Association to serve as one of 25 sites nationwide hosting the Project IMPACT program. This program uses the interdisciplinary health team approach to educate and improve health outcomes for patients at high risk for disease complications.

Clinical Laboratory Services collected and processed 260,281 laboratory tests for JCDH's patients during the year. In the June 2011 clinical laboratory recertification survey, JCDH met all Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) requirements and attained a perfect survey score for its seventh consecutive survey.

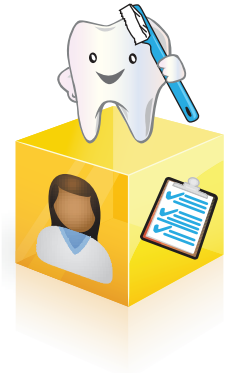


The assurance of quality patient care remains an ongoing commitment. In raising the standard of care for pediatric asthma patients, JCDH participates in the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Asthma Project, which improves processes optimizing patient care. Bessemer and Western Health Centers, the Alliance for a Healthier Generation and the American Academy of Pediatrics hosted a reading of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle to educate children and parents about healthy eating and to enhance literacy. Jefferson County Department of Health's Bessemer, Central, Western and West End Health Centers continue to be active Reach Out and Read and Reading is Fundamental sites providing new books to children during routine physical exams.

Training for 70 child care workers regarding infectious disease prevention was provided by JCDH physicians in 2011. Additionally, JCDH physicians collaborated with the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics in recruiting pediatricians to participate in the "Choosing Quality Child Care" information dissemination project. JCDH physicians continued in 2011 to provide interactive outreach through programs on adult health for the community.



# Dental Health

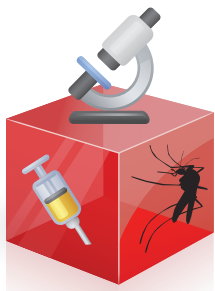


## ASSURANCE

As a critical part of healthcare, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) remains committed to assuring dental health for the county's residents. In 2011, JCDH provided over \$2 million in dental services for uninsured and underinsured residents. The **Dental Health Division** provided onsite dental care for residents of the Jefferson Rehabilitation and Health Center, to special needs clients at the United Cerebral Palsy of Central Alabama's Lincpoint Facility, and to elementary school children through school-based dental clinics sponsored in partnership with the Crippled Children's Foundation, the Birmingham District Dental Society and the Jefferson County and Birmingham City school systems. Since preventative dental care reduces the need for future dental treatment, JCDH, in partnership with the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, completed oral health assessments in 23 Jefferson County schools. A total of 3,561 kindergarten and 3rd grade students received no-cost screening and dental services during 2011 through the Oral Health Assessment program. JCDH also screened 100 children for dental disease through the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity (JCCEO) Head Start Program. In collaboration with Cahaba Valley Health Care, JCDH offered dental care to underserved individuals within the Latino community. Through community-based events including Project Homeless Connect and Give Kids a Smile, dental screenings and care for 222 additional individuals was provided in 2011.

Assuring dental health for the future requires a well trained workforce. In 2011, JCDH partnered with the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Wallace State Community College and Bessemer State Technical College to provide dental public health lectures, clinical rotations and mentorship for over 150 dental hygiene and dental assistant students.





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# Disease Control

### ASSURANCE

Immunizations remain the best strategy for preventing communicable disease. In 2011, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) provided immunizations to 894 children through Tot Shots clinics. These monthly clinics, offered through a partnership between JCDH, UAB Women & Infants Center, St. Vincent's East Foundation and St. Vincent's Hospital-Birmingham, offer free, walk-in immunizations for children through six community locations. Immunization audits are performed for child care centers in Jefferson County with the resulting scores electronically posted on JCDH's website for public review. Among children attending daycare centers in Jefferson County in 2011, the audits revealed that 90% were up-to-date with required immunizations.

In preventing disease outbreaks and controlling the spread of communicable disease, the **Disease Control Division** investigated over 300 cases of communicable disease and eight reports of suspected food-borne illness during 2011. In partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), JCDH assisted in investigating a bacterial infection acquired by patients in local hospitals. In addition to disease investigations, over 25 community education sessions on disease transmission and prevention were conducted.

Screening and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases assesses health and reduces disease transmission. JCDH screened 13,082 individuals in 2011 for sexually transmitted diseases including Syphilis, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and HIV. Through screening events at post-secondary schools, a public high school and local jails, 1,190 persons were screened for sexually transmitted diseases; infected individuals were treated. To expand HIV testing, JCDH initiated two projects in collaboration with UAB's Division of Infectious Disease during the year. The HIV GenProbe test was instituted to provide more accurate detection of recent HIV infection and, in coordination with UAB Hospital, a follow-up process for patients initially diagnosed with HIV at UAB Hospital's Emergency Room was established.

JCDH became the first Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic in Alabama to offer the T-SPOT TB test during 2011. This test detects *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection through blood tests, thus supporting the effective identification and treatment of individuals infected or exposed to tuberculosis. JCDH provided medication and directly observed therapy (DOT) to 25 individuals with active TB and to 18 individuals suspected of having the disease. Disease Control staff completed contact investigations and screenings for over 800 TB case contacts. More than 1,300 individuals were evaluated for Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) through JCDH's TB Clinic. Information on TB prevention, transmission, current trends, testing and treatment was provided through schools, community groups, community-based clinics and organizations within Jefferson County. Tuberculosis testing and education was also offered through partnerships with Project Homeless Connect, the Church of the Reconciler, Changed Lives Christian Center and the Fellowship House.

# Management Information Systems



## ASSURANCE

Through information technology support, **Management Information Systems (MIS)** provides the technological resource support for excellent public health services. During the Guy M. Tate Building renovation in 2011, MIS relocated data and communication equipment while continuing to respond to an average of 26 internal service requests per day.

Numerous software solutions were implemented during 2011 including the installation of the "Disability Alert System" in collaboration with the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). An update to the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) web site was completed and strategies for implementing paperless Environmental Health inspections was designed. Implementation of a Virtualized Server Infrastructure that will be highly available and enable full utilization

of hardware resources was initiated during the year. This new infrastructure will provide minimum downtime, disaster recovery, reduced power consumption, streamlined server management and software licensing savings benefits.





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# Vital Records

### ASSURANCE

Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) continues the provision of accurate information regarding in-state and out-of-state vital events among Jefferson County residents. Vital event records may be obtained through in-person requests, as well as by phone and mail requests. During 2011, JCDH's **Vital Records Division** issued 34,622 birth certificates, 51,910 death certificates, 1,894 marriage certificates and 295 divorce certificates.



JCDH encouraged healthy behavior among its employees with health insurance discounts, a walking program and a stair challenge.



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# Finance & Administration



### ASSURANCE

Financial and administrative support provides the backbone for high quality public health services. In 2011, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) financial statements received an unqualified opinion from external auditors, signifying the integrity and reliability of these statements. Financial economy was enhanced through an efficient and thorough Central Billing Office producing rapid reimbursement to maintain minimal patient costs. As JCDH integrates the new government-mandated methodology of coding and billing, more detailed information is being recorded from patient visits, thus enhancing the ability to determine health needs. Secondary to use of a Certified Electronic Health Record and a high percentage of Medicaid patients, JCDH received federal reimbursement of almost \$200,000 in 2011 through the "Meaningful Use" incentive program which encourages providers to adopt or update an electronic medical/dental program with identified capabilities.

In encouraging healthy behavior among its workforce, JCDH offered wellness benefits and services for employees including several health insurance premium discounts for wellness program participants. In 2011, 146 employees received a health insurance discount for achieving the Global Fit® step challenge goal, and 237 employees received a health insurance discount for completing a wellness screening.

JCDH continued its focus on workforce development to maximize employees' ability to deliver quality public health services. The **Human Resources Division** provided 76 specialized training programs for staff development.

To reduce future personnel costs, a retirement incentive was accepted by 71 employees meeting the eligibility criteria established by the Retirement Systems of Alabama or the City of Birmingham. The **Finance and Administration Division** facilitated this transition.

Renovation of the Guy M. Tate facility began in 2011. With the upgrades made to the heating and air conditioning system, energy consumption at the Guy M. Tate building is expected to be reduced by 10 to 15%. Other facility changes were implemented to improve patient flow and enhance environmental friendliness, appearance and comfort.

Utilizing a grant received by the **General Services** and Environmental Health Divisions, JCDH installed Light Emitting Diode (LED) light fixtures within its Annex property. The energy savings anticipated from the LED light installation is 5 to 10% of the property's total energy requirement. Through implementation of environmentally conscious building design, JCDH is creating buildings which enhance operations while protecting the environment.





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# Emergency Preparedness

### ASSURANCE

To mitigate the public health impact of disasters occurring within Jefferson County, the **Emergency Preparedness Division** utilizes an all-hazards approach to emergency preparedness and education. In collaboration with the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency and the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) conducted emergency exercises and training throughout 2011 to prepare Jefferson County for emergency response. JCDH participated on the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Birmingham Area Safety Officer's Committee, the Metropolitan Medical Response System Committee and the Expanded Radiological Emergency Response Team. The Emergency Preparedness Division engaged in a variety



of federal work initiatives including the National Association of County and City Health Officials workgroups, the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's EpiAid investigations.

As a part of the Cities Readiness Initiative grant, JCDH is responsible for providing medication to over 650,000 individuals within 48 hours following a large scale bioterrorist event. Current

emergency preparedness efforts focus on the implementation of employer operated points of dispensing known as "closed PODs" to provide medication to employees and their families. In 2011, a closed POD exercise was conducted for local hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, universities and schools to train additional partners in the setup and management of closed PODs for emergency events.



# Tornado Relief



## TORNADO RELIEF

On April 27, 2011, Jefferson County was struck by several tornadoes leaving parts of the county devastated. The Emergency Preparedness Division initiated the coordination of Jefferson County Department of Health's (JCDH's) immediate response. As the managing agency of the Public Health Branch of the Emergency Management Agency (EMA), JCDH served on the response team at the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center as a liaison with county, state and federal partners. JCDH's Storm Water program quickly located blocked and damaged storm drains to reduce flooding in the affected areas. For Jefferson County residents requiring temporary shelter as a result of the storm's damage, JCDH ensured that the food served in shelters met health and safety regulations. JCDH assured compliance with the boil water notice issued soon after the tornadoes by the Birmingham Water Works Board which impacted 124 establishments along the Highway 78 corridor. Environmental Health Specialists addressed potential health hazards in areas experiencing storm-related power outages and assisted families in the North Smithfield and Concord communities remove debris. Because exposure to debris and other environmental hazards placed many Jefferson County residents and first responders at risk for tetanus, JCDH administered tetanus vaccines. Influenza immunizations were also offered. In meeting the immediate medical needs of Jefferson County residents affected by the storms, JCDH provided medication through a pharmacy/prescription refill program and partnered with the United Way of Central Alabama to supply dental services including partials and dentures for tornado victims. Clinical Services staff rendered housing and relocation assistance, and acquired needed services including access to crisis counseling for tornado victims.



In order to allow storm victims to rebuild more rapidly, JCDH waived its septic tank system application fee and expedited the application process. Asbestos notification fees were waived, and the notification process was modified to enable asbestos abatement and demolition to occur more quickly. Fees and restrictions on open burning were waived for storm-impacted areas to support more rapid debris removal. JCDH collaborated with local municipalities to facilitate the arduous process of debris removal. JCDH continues to assist in developing and implementing plans for rebuilding the communities devastated. Lessons learned through the April 2011 tornadoes and other disasters have been incorporated into future emergency preparedness and recovery planning to mitigate the loss of life and property within Jefferson County.



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# General Financial Information

### REVENUES (GENERAL FUND - \$46,559,615)

#### 1. Ad Valorem Tax Revenue (\$7,454,269 - 16% of General Fund 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 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.

For the last eleven years, Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) has received a flat amount of funding from this source which represents approximately 3% of the total ad valorem tax. These funds are forwarded to JCDH as the taxes are collected.

#### 2. Sales Tax Revenue (\$18,163,185 - 39% of General Fund Revenues)

JCDH receives approximately 20% of the total County sales tax.

#### 3. State & Federal Contracts (\$3,944,045 - 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 Diseases and Hepatitis.

#### 4. Clinical Health Care Revenue (\$10,557,142 - 23% of General Fund Revenues)

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

Using the Federal Poverty Guidelines, JCDH offers reduced fees for services for patients meeting these financial and residential guidelines. Approximately 3% of JCDH's reimbursement is attained from patients, 92% from Medicaid, 3% from Blue Cross, and the remaining 2% from all other payers combined (e.g., Medicare, etc.).

#### 5. Environmental Health Services (\$3,503,002 - 8% 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 Division 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.

# General Financial Information



## 6. Other Revenue (\$2,937,973 - 6% of General Fund Revenues)

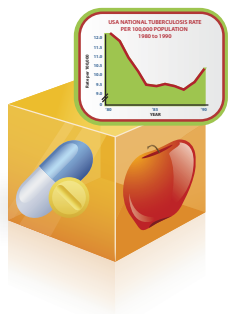
This category is primarily reimbursement received for indirect costs (administration and building overhead) associated with Federal grants and contracts such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children and Air Pollution. Also included are allowable fines levied for violation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

## EXPENDITURES

Expenditures are generally classified by major public health program with administrative costs and capital fund transfers separately identified. General fund expenditures for fiscal year 2011 include:

* Salaries and Benefits	\$38,819,187	74%
* Materials and Supplies	6,749,580	13%
* Contract Services	1,974,736	4%
* Capital Fund Transfers	4,582,851	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$52,126,355</b>	<b>100%</b>

JCDH also has eight Special Revenue Funds totaling \$10,158,910. Funding is received from federal awards passed through JCDH and designated for activities related to *Communities Putting Prevention to Work*, immunizations, nutrition and air pollution. These funds are operated in accordance with the funding requirements of special grants and appropriations.



## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Jefferson County Department of Health

# Jefferson County Selected Health Statistics, 2010\*

### Population by Age

(2010 Census Bureau Counts)

<1 year <sup>1</sup>	8,856
1-14 years	119,316
15-24 years	91,067
25-64 years	352,784
65 years and older	86,443
<b>Total</b>	<b>658,466</b>

### Chronic Diseases

Age-adjusted mortality rate (rate per 100,000 population)

	Jefferson County	10-year trend
Heart Disease	197.7	▼
Cancer	185.1	▼
Stroke	52.5	▼
Diabetes	27.4	▲
Alzheimer's Disease	25.6	▲

### Communicable Disease

(rates per 100,000 population)

	Jefferson County	Alabama <sup>2</sup>	United States <sup>2</sup>
Chlamydia	653.4	574.3	426
Gonorrhea	293.5	168.5	100.8
Syphilis (primary & secondary)	14	5.5	4.5
Tuberculosis	4.4	3.1	3.6

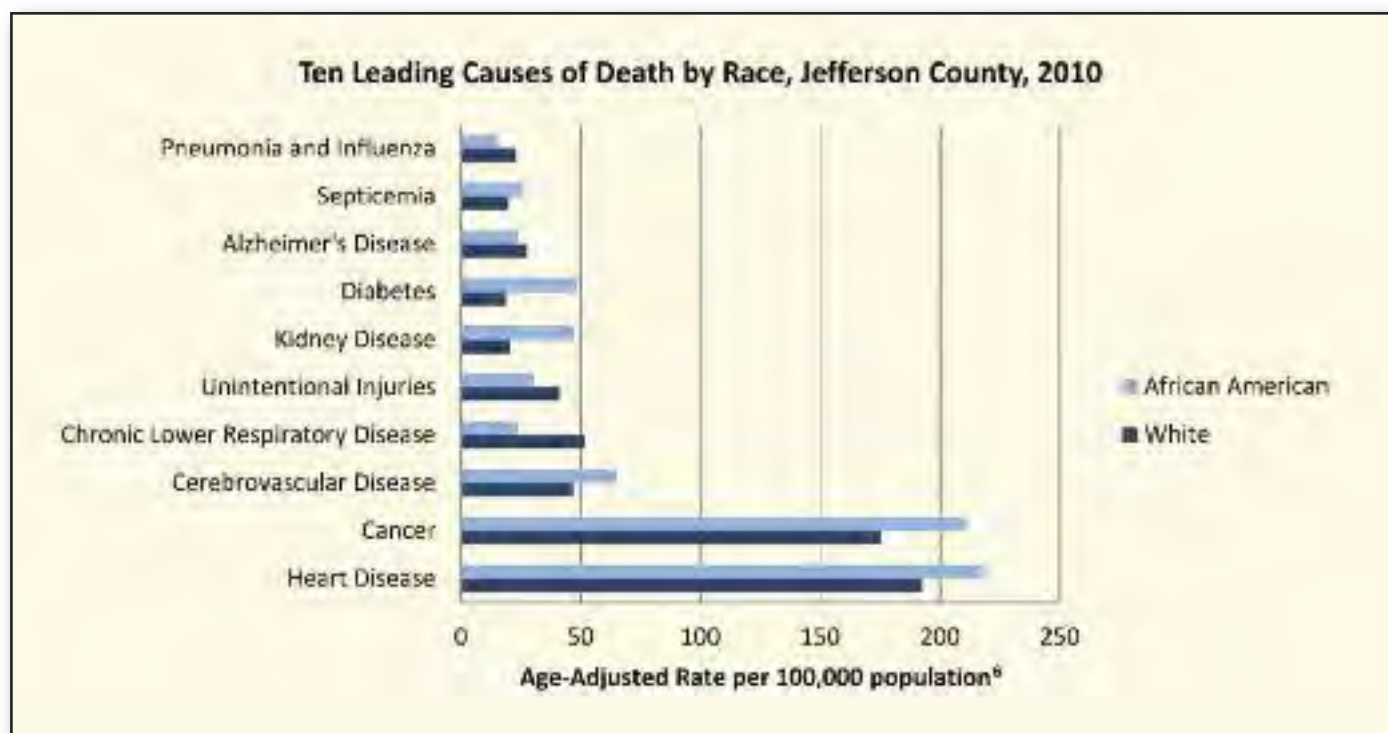
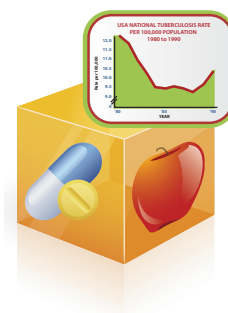
### Maternal and Child Health

(number and rate or percent)

	Number	Jefferson County	Alabama <sup>3</sup>	United States <sup>4,5</sup>
Live Births				
(women age 15-44)	8,856	64.1 per 1,000	62.4 per 1,000	64.1 per 1,000
Low Birthweight Births				
(<2500 g)	995	11.2%	10.3%	8.1%
Very Low Birthweight Births				
(<1500 g)	227	2.6%	1.9%	1.5%
Live Births to Teens				
(women age 10 to 19 years)	888	20.8 per 1,000	22.8 per 1,000	NA
Infant Mortality	102	11.5 per 1,000	8.2 per 1,000	NA

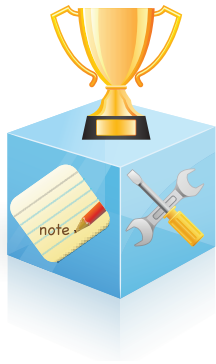


# Jefferson County Selected Health Statistics, 2010\*



1. 2010 number of live births in Jefferson County
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
3. Rates are based on 2010 population projections. Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH); [www.adph.org/healthstats](http://www.adph.org/healthstats)
4. Based on the preliminary data for 2010 from the US National Vital Statistics Report; [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr60/nvsr60\\_02\\_tables.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr60/nvsr60_02_tables.pdf)
5. The United States Infant Mortality Rate was 6.75 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2007, the most current year reported.
6. Rates are based on the 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates for Jefferson County. [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

\*2011 Selected Health Statistics will be available in the 2012 Annual Report



## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Jefferson County Department of Health

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