



*Our Vision*  
Health at the Highest Level

*Our Mission*  
Prevention of Disease and Promotion of  
Wellness for our Community

Public health, by definition, is the science and practice of protecting and improving the health of the community, as by preventative medicine, health education, control of communicable diseases, application of sanitary measures, and monitoring of environmental hazards.

During the past century, the health and life expectancy of persons residing in the United States improved dramatically. Since 1900, the average lifespan of a person has lengthened by more than 30 years. Twenty-five years of this gain are attributable to advances in public health.

The health of Johnson County residents is influenced by a combination of societal, cultural and economic factors. It is the job of our health practitioners to examine how the community as a whole is being affected by them. When health threats are identified in our area, practitioners have the ability to advocate public policy, promote behavioral change and change practices to protect our health.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, ten great public health achievements include

- Vaccination
- Motor vehicle safety
- Safer workplaces
- Control of infectious diseases
- Decline in death from heart disease and stroke
- Safer & healthier foods
- Healthier mothers and babies
- Fluoridation of drinking water
- Recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard

The Johnson County Health Department health practitioners address public health issues everyday through comprehensive, quality services, making these accomplishments possible for our community.

# JOHNSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**2 0 0 5**

**A n n u a l  
R e p o r t**

## *Health Department Administrators*

*Leon F. Vinci, DHA, Director of Public Health*

*Bernice "Debby" Sullivan, Health Director (Retired January 2006)*

*Joseph W. Hume, M.D., Medical Advisor & Health Officer*

## *Division Directors*

*Barbara Riley, Family Health Services*

*Nancy Tausz, Disease Containment*

*Eldonna Chesnut, Adult and Child Care Facilities*

*Barbara D. Mitchell, Health Education*

*Jose Martinez, Administrative Operations*

## *Board of County Commissioners, Board of Health*

*Annabeth Surbaugh, Chairman*

*C. Edward Peterson, District 1*

*John P. Segale, District 2*

*David A. Lindstrom, District 3*

*Dolores Furtado, District 4*

*Douglas E. Wood, District 5*

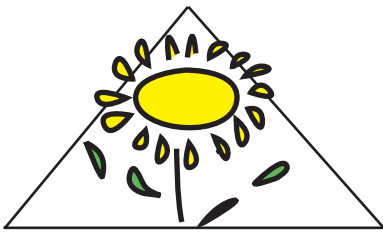
*John M. Toplikar, District 6*

## *County Management*

*Michael B. Press, County Manager*

*Hannes Zacharias, Deputy County Manager*

*Bernice Duletski, Assistant County Manager*



## **JOHNSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

11875 S. Sunset, Suite 300  
Olathe, KS 66061

# Division: Adult and Child Care Facilities

Eldonna Chesnut, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.N., Division Director  
Fellow, Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute

## Adult Care Facilities Program

Monitors nursing homes, assisted living centers, adult day cares and Home Plus (home-based adult care) in accordance with State regulations, ensuring quality care and a safe, healthy living environment. Monitoring visits are made at least four times a year, plus an annual state survey. Provides education and consultation to families, facility staff and the community. Available to the public as a resource on state regulations.

	2003	2004	2005
Adult Care Visits	129	109	474

### Significant Happenings

Adult Care Nurse positions added  
Increase in adult care visits by 77%  
Completed Adult Care Facilities Needs Assessment - classes offered based on outcome of assessment

## Child Care Facilities Program

Provides health and safety information and education to child care providers and parents. Monitors licensed child care facilities with evaluation visits and initial, annual and compliance checks. Recommends facility licensure to KDHE. Investigates complaints on licensed and registered homes and child care centers. Works to resolve illegal care issues with the District Attorney's Office.

	2003	2004	2005
Initial Survey Visits	1,025	1,034	915
All Other Visits	890	1,196	1,498
Illegal Care Visits	27	69	79
Total Facility Visits	1,942	2,230	2,492

### Significant Happenings

Participated in Spanish classes modified to address communicating with child care providers  
Staff received Elevated Lead Blood Level Investigator Status  
Served as pilot site for Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care Licensing and Registration's new database CLARIS(Childcare Licensing and Registration Information System)  
Created new partnerships to provide child care provider classes

# Division: Health Education

Barbara D. Mitchell, M.S.W., Division Director  
Fellow, Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute

Promotes healthy behaviors and prevention of disease and injury by distributing information and providing programs, events, screenings, presentations, classes, workshops and professional trainings to all segments of the population. Leads efforts of Community Health Assessment Process (CHAP).

	2003	2004	2005
Individuals Served	45,804	41,470	36,527
Wellness Screening Participants	2,053	2,457	2,804
Classes/Presentations Participants	8,108	19,603	16,649

### Significant Happenings

Partnered with local/state agencies, senior centers, schools, community and work sites to offer research based health information  
Provided technical support and education to the public and elected officials on the issue of smoke-free workplaces  
Completed "Bucks for Buckles" a seat belt education program with 625 participants  
Researched, updated and streamlined the "Growing Up A Good Time" Program and renamed it "Let's Get Growing"  
Coordinated and implemented health screenings for the County's Wellness Fairs

# Division: Administrative Operations

Jose Martinez, M.A., Division Director

Coordinates fiscal monitoring, grant coordination, budgeting, auditing, reporting, accounting, statistics, billing, computer operations, human resources, payroll and clerical tasks. Supports Health Department Divisions by scheduling appointments and follow-ups, medical chart preparation and auditing, data entry and secretarial functions.

### Significant Happenings

Added two appointment clerks, resulting in more efficient client assistance  
New client restroom was designed and constructed within clinic area to meet increased pre-natal case load

	2003	2004	2005
County Funds	\$3,732,724	\$3,836,064	\$4,114,384
Grant Funds	\$2,318,884	\$2,950,000	\$2,663,505
Fees Collected	\$1,122,308	\$1,127,754	\$1,188,176
Total	\$7,173,916	\$7,913,818	\$7,966,065

# Division: Family Health Services

Barbara Riley, R.N., B.A., Division Director

## The Prenatal Program

Debra Whiteman R.N., B.S.N., Manager

The Johnson County Health Department provides prenatal services in order to foster healthy growth and development during pregnancy and to promote a safe delivery for mother and baby.

### Significant Happenings

Achieved a low birth weight rate of 3% as compared to the national goal of 7.6% (Healthy People 2010)

100+ Prenatal clients received the flu vaccine

Continued collaboration with University of Kansas OB-GYN Department for High Risk Prenatal clients

Received a grant to implement a smoking cessation program for clients

Staff attended childbirth education training classes

Initiated the Maternal/Child Health Program Advisory Committee

	2003	2004	2005
<b>Maternal &amp; Infant Program</b>			
Mothers Enrolled	774	858	949
Infants Enrolled	499	577	651
New Prenatal Clients	441	567	561
Visits	3,730	4,714	5,730
Deliveries	347	414	416
Ultra Sounds		75	306
High Risk Clinic			105

## Women's/Men's Health/Family Planning/STD/HIV Program

Debra Whiteman R.N., B.S.N., Manager

Provides reproductive health care services including physical exams, contraception counseling, sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment, HIV counseling, testing and referral.

### Significant Happenings

Provided two mammogram clinics in collaboration with Cancer Institute Center for Breast Cancer

Participated in Spanish classes specific to nursing/medical profession

Staff completed colposcopy training mentorship in collaboration with University of Kansas Medical School

	2003	2004	2005
Number of Clinics	994	959	936
Clients	5,292	5,877	6,791
Visits	10,084	11,286	11,669
Colposcopy Clinic Clients	94	111	209

## Laboratory Services

Denise Stoll, M.T., Manager

H. William Barkman, M.D. Laboratory Medical Director

Provides waived, moderate and high complexity testing in CLIA approved laboratory for all Family Health Services clinics.

	2003	2004	2005
In-house Tests	25,382	30,041	31,601
Send-out Tests	15,449	18,515	20,097
Total	40,831	48,556	51,698

### Significant Happenings

Staff certified in packing and shipping of infectious and diagnostic specimens

Initiated fecal occult blood testing

Performed 326 DNA blood draws for Johnson County Community Corrections

## Social Work Prenatal Services

Lisa Erlinger-Teel, L.M.S.W., Manager

Assesses prenatal client's social needs, provides referrals to community resources and determines financial status/eligibility for additional State/Federal programs. Provides ongoing support and counseling to clients throughout their pregnancy. Provides HIV/AIDS case management through Ryan White Grant.

	2003	2004	2005
Client Contacts	1,394	1,578	1,567
Ryan White Clients	74	84	71

### Significant Happenings

Provided internships for Kansas School of Welfare Social Work Students

Social Work offered onsite services to prenatal high risk clinic clients

Johnson County Resources Sheet was updated in English and Spanish

## Well Child/Health Assessment Program

Debra Whiteman, R.N., B.S.N., Manager

Provides physical exams and health screenings to infants, children and adolescents through clinics staffed by physician residents from KU Pediatric program and Health Department Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners.

### Significant Happenings

Provided health assessment clinics to Heartland Learning Center Head Start  
 Worked with physicians to provide school and Kan Be Healthy Assessments  
 Continued weekly clinics for clients from Adolescent Center for Treatment  
 Offered "Reach Out and Read Kansas City" to encourage children to read by providing free, age appropriate books and information to increase family literacy  
 Provided lead testing to 367 children; 0 had elevated levels

	2003	2004	2005
Clinics	160	154	139
Clients	1,117	966	986
Visits	1,423	1,152	1,122
Kan Be Health Assessments	652	438	247

## Supplemental Food & Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Laura Drake, R.D.,L.D., Manager

Prevents or corrects nutrition related problems by providing nutrition education, checks to buy nutritious food and health screenings for pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women and infants and children under 5. Services given to clients at or below 185% of poverty level.

### Significant Happenings

Exceeded assigned state caseload of 4,806 by 128%  
 Awarded WIC contracts to two additional grocery stores, totaling 35 grocery stores that redeem WIC checks  
 Breast Feeding Peer Counselor Program initiated with hiring of two peer counselors

	2003	2004	2005
New Clients	3,786	4,085	3,458
Previous Enrolled Clients	3,242	4,462	5,813
Total Clients	7,028	8,547	9,271
Certification Visits	6,266	9,373	10,459
Check Pick-up Visits	14,417	21,089	24,953
Total Visits	20,683	30,462	35,412
Nutrition Education Contacts	6,034	8,982	11,195
\$ Value of Checks Issued	\$2,753,493	\$4,305,046	\$5,530,386
\$ Value of Average Food	\$63.87	\$71.77	\$83.69

# Division: Disease Containment

Nancy Tausz, R.N., B.S.N., Division Director

## Disease Containment Program

Ida Nesmith, B.S.N., M.S., Manager

Prevents, contains and controls the transmission of disease, including tuberculosis, through surveillance, investigation and education. Collaborates with the Public Health Emergency Program in active surveillance for unusual syndromic events.

	2003	2004	2005
Number of Clients	4,881	6,351	6,268
TB Cases Reported	15	7	11
Refugee Health Assessments	34	35	43

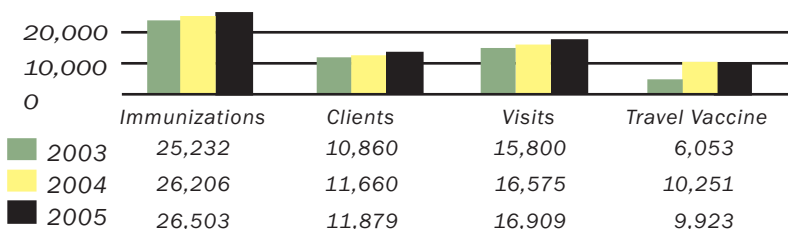
### Significant Happenings

Investigated 22 reportable disease outbreaks, interviewing and testing 2-75 people for each outbreak  
 Increase in Pertussis cases from 58 in 2004 to 102 in 2005  
 Presented information on avian/pandemic flu preparedness and response to numerous agencies  
 Educated appropriate agencies on HB2264 clarifying Medical Director's authority in Isolation and Quarantine

## Immunization Program

Ida Nesmith, B.S.N., M.S., Manager

Provides immunizations to children and adults for vaccine-preventable diseases and offers international travel vaccines.



### Significant Happenings

Administered 200 vaccines to Hurricane Katrina responders from various agencies  
 Maintained immunization compliance for 2 year olds at 80%

# Outreach Nurse Program & Healthy Start Home Visitor Program

Cathy Shemwell, R.N., B.S.N., Manager

## Outreach Nurse Program

Registered nurses provide screening, assessment, education and resource information/referral to persons of all ages living in Johnson County. The senior adult nurses focus on disease prevention, early identification of health problems, management of chronic illness and client education related to disease processes. The mother/newborn nurses promote the use of preventive health services and early identification of health problems during the prenatal and postpartum period.

## Healthy Start Visitor Program

Healthy Start Home Visitors are specially trained non-medical personnel who provide education, resource information and support to pregnant women and new mothers.

### Significant Happenings

Provided education and resource/referral information weekly to residents of a domestic violence center

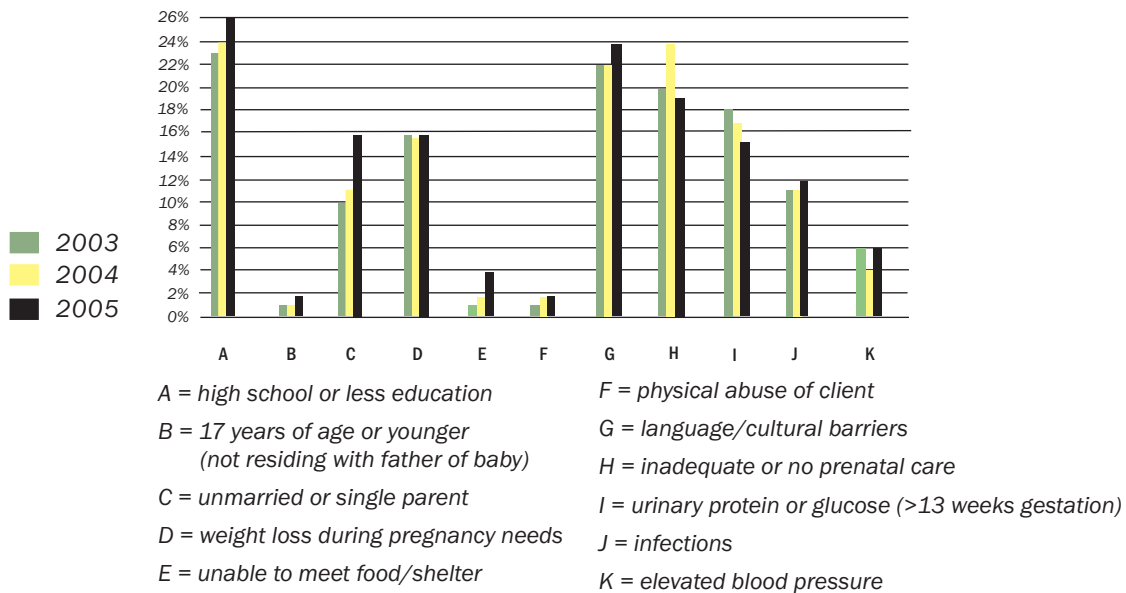
Provided education of process and management of medications and disease prevention monthly at senior apartment complex

288 blood pressure screening clinics were held at county wide locations

Partnered with First Guard Health Plan targeting the reduction of low birth weight infants and premature births

	2003	2004	2005
Blood Pressure Clinic Visits	3,003	4,848	4,680
Senior Adult Home Visits	666	686	604
Prenatal/Postpartum/ Newborn Home Visits	1,223	1,656	1,571
Healthy Start Home Visits	520	406	331
Total Visits	5,412	7,596	7,186

### Prenatal/Postpartum Client Risk Factors



## Public Health Emergency Program (PHEP)

Liz Ticer, B.S., Manager

Ensures the health and safety of Johnson County residents and visitors in the event of a public health emergency (including bioterrorism) by continuing preparedness and response planning, assessing response capabilities, increasing epidemiologic capacity and surveillance activities, providing education and training to staff and other first responders, strengthening communication abilities within the County and enhancing the dissemination of important health information.

### Significant Happenings

PHEP staff participated in over 580 training hours on public health and emergency response issues

One staff member was deployed to Hancock County, Mississippi to assist with the Hurricane Katrina efforts

Collaborated with county agencies, businesses, and hospitals in emergency planning and response

### Preparedness Focus in 2006

The public health emergency program will continue to focus efforts on training health department staff, updating our response plans, and working with local, regional, metro and state partners in better preparing Johnson County for a public health emergency.