

# JOHNSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



JOHNSON COUNTY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

dedicated to the prevention of disease and  
promotion of wellness for our community



2008

annual report

Vision: Health at the Highest Level

Mission: Prevention of Disease and Promotion  
of Wellness for our Community

# Public Health: Past & Present

During the twentieth century, public health in this country has made amazing advances in the prevention of disease and promotion of wellness that led to a dramatic increase in longevity. Today, the average person can expect to live to almost 80, a 40-year increase over the average in 1900.

Throughout the course of the last century, public health has grown to address an ever-widening range of issues, including infectious & chronic diseases, injury prevention, and public health preparedness.

Johnson County Health Department, established in 1943 with two divisions (nursing services and sanitation) and a handful of employees, has also grown through the years. Currently there are five divisions with 120 employees offering comprehensive, preventive healthcare services to a Johnson County population of more than 525,000.

Divisions include:  
Family Health Services  
Disease Containment,  
Adult/Child Care Facilities,  
Health Education  
Administrative Operations

Looking to the future, the issues that face public health will be very different than those we faced more than 100 years ago, but equally as important to the health of our community. The Health Department will continue to educate and inform the public on health risks, monitor, investigate, and work to prevent disease and injury, and offer high quality healthcare services to our residents.



# FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

Victoria Hanley, R.N., B.S.N., Division Director

## The Prenatal Program

Debra Whiteman R.N., B.S.N., Maternal Child Health Program Supervisor

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

Reorganized staff to better meet client needs, address capacity issues and improve efficiency.

Moved all prenatal services to the Olathe clinic site as a result of changing demographics, staffing issues, and the need for increased efficiency.

Collaborated weekly with Johnson County Community College's "Oral Health on Wheels", referring Prenatal and Well Child clients for dental screenings.

	2008	2007	2006
Moms Enrolled	988	1,035	1,036
Infants Enrolled	796	771	763
New Prenatal Clients	529	559	596
Visits	5,360	5,433	6,721
Deliveries	460	509	521
High-Risk Clinic	N/A	52	101

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

Amalia Almeida ARNP, M.S.N, Women's/Men's Health Program Supervisor

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

### Significant Happenings

Implemented electronic medical records in all programs.

Began Open Access scheduling system resulting in a "show rate" of 85 to 90 percent as well as less wait time for an appointment.

Initiated HIV opt-out and rapid HIV screenings.

83% of clients served were below 150% of poverty level.

	2008	2007	2006
Number of Clinics	1,599	980	1,090
Clients	6,603	5,932	6,576
Visits	13,165	12,063	11,988
Colposcopy clients	307	267	201
Ryan White clients	70	74	70

## 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 five. Services given to clients at or below 185% of poverty level.

### Significant Happenings

Exceeded assigned state caseload of 6,748 by 115%.

Obtained renewed funding for the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program.

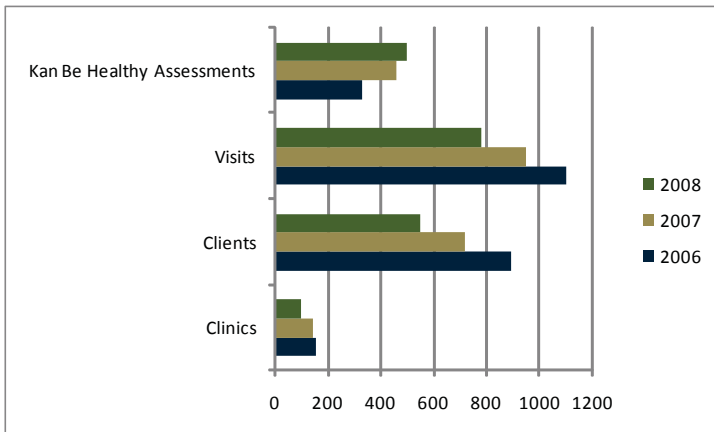
Began a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program support group/class.

	2008	2007	2006
New Clients	4,662	4,503	3,559
Previous Clients Enrolled	7,373	6,820	6,169
Total Clients	12,035	11,323	9,728
Certification Visits	15,315	13,348	11,527
Check Pick-Up Visits	35,016	29,679	27,524
Total Visits	50,331	43,027	39,051
Nutritional Education Contacts	36,895	18,744	9,244
Value of Checks Issued	\$7,347,300	\$6,646,199	\$6,556,753
Value of Average Food Voucher	\$80.15	\$78.58	\$89.12

## Well Child/Health Assessment Program

Debra Whiteman, R.N., B.S.N., Maternal Child Health Program Supervisor

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



### Significant Happenings

Referred all children and adolescents (two to 18 years) served in the Well Child program with weights /BMIs greater than the 85th percentile to nutritional counseling and medical services.

Continued efforts to increase literacy and encourage children to read through participation in the KC Metro area-wide initiative, "Reach Out and Read Kansas City".

Began tracking on the lack of a medical home (provider) for children seeking our services.

## Laboratory Services

Denise Stoll, M.T., Manager

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

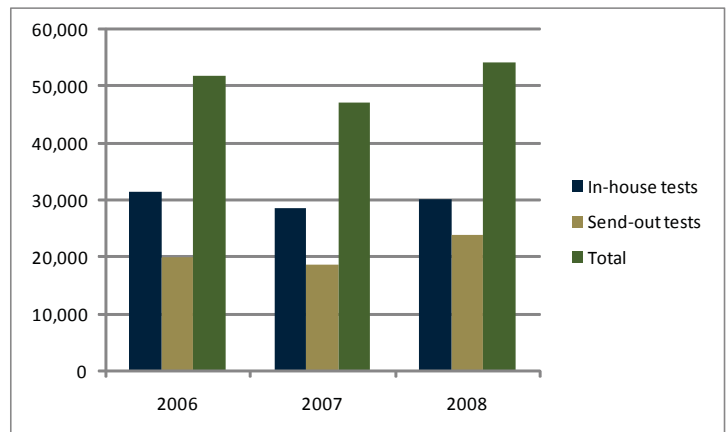
Lowell Tilzer, M.D., Laboratory Clinical Consultant

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

### Significant Happenings

Initiated the use of an outside reference lab to provide screening results as a cost-saving measure for our clients.

Offered non-invasive methods for Sexually Transmitted Infection screenings to clients receiving other services to help identify undiagnosed cases.

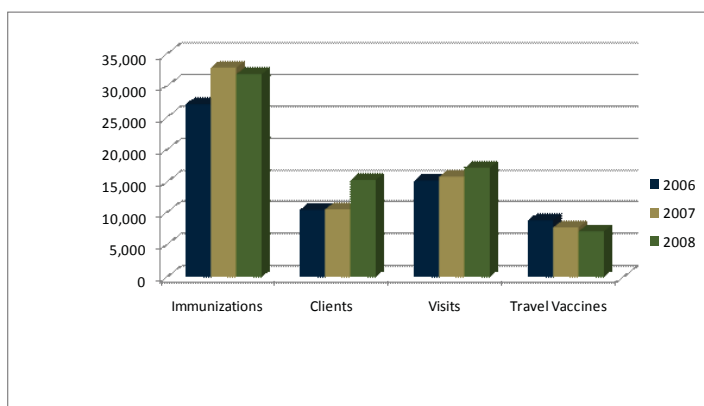


# DISEASE CONTAINMENT

Nancy Tausz, R.N., B.S.N., Division Director,  
Fellow, Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute

## Immunization Program

Julie Beach, R.N., Manager



Provides immunizations and education to children and adults for vaccine-preventable diseases. Offers international travel vaccines and screening for Tuberculosis.

### Significant Happenings

Administered 791 flu vaccines in collaboration with the Public Health Emergency Program.

Implemented the KDHE Immunization Registry, WEBIZ.

Continued collaboration with the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City and Reach Foundation to offer Gardasil (HPV) vaccine to females nine to 26 years of age.

Participated in KDHE's high-risk program offering Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccines.

## Disease Containment Program

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

	2008	2007	2006
Number of Clients	7,676	7,041	6,362
TB Reports	16	8	6
Refugee Health Assessments	80	17	35

### Significant Happenings

Adopted an updated rabies resolution for the unincorporated county areas.

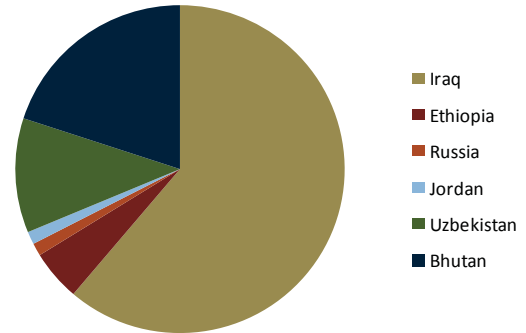
Processed 2,426 reported disease cases.

Conducted 19 outbreak investigations (253 individuals) involving restaurants, schools, and adult care facilities.

Investigated 356 reported animal bites/exposures, involving: 92 bats, 61 cats, 180 dogs, 18 others (skunks, rats, woodchucks, raccoons, etc.)

Collaborated in the development of a regional disease surveillance system with the Mid-America Regional Council, Missouri and Kansas state health departments, and Software Technology Corporation.

### 2008 Refugees by Country of Origin



## Public Health Emergency Program (PHEP)

Liz Ticer, B.S., Manager

Responsible for continued preparedness and response planning related to large-scale disease outbreaks. The program works continuously with community partners and other County agencies in assessment and support of response capabilities of the County, in order to support a resilient and disaster-resistant community.

### Significant Happenings

Partnered with Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security in developing Johnson County - A Community Prepared education campaign ([www.jocoprepared.org](http://www.jocoprepared.org)).

Conducted a mass dispensing exercise with the Blue Valley School District, various County agencies and departments, and the cities of Overland Park and Olathe.

Coordinated a regional flu clinic exercise with 10 Greater Kansas City metro area health departments and 20 area hospitals.



Johnson County Health Department employees set up for an influenza vaccination exercise at the Old Shawnee Town Hall. Nurses vaccinated more than 520 individuals in two hours at the free clinic, which was part of a region-wide flu clinic exercise.

### Preparedness Focus 2009

PHEP continues to focus efforts on training Johnson County government employees for disaster response, updating departmental response plans, and exercising those plans with local, regional, metropolitan, and state partners to help make Johnson County a Community Prepared.

## Outreach Nurse Program

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

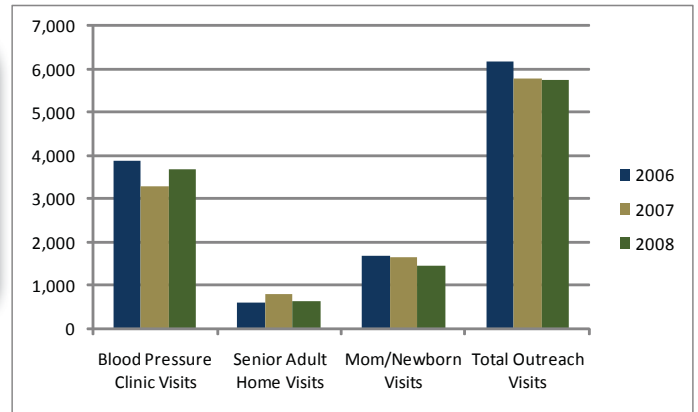
Registered nurses provide screening, assessment, education, and resource information/referral to persons of all ages living in Johnson County. The senior adult nurses focus on disease prevention, early identification of health problems, management of chronic illness, and client education related to disease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

### Significant Happenings

Offered 269 blood pressure screening clinics countywide.

Assisted with employee wellness flu vaccination clinics and staffed Immunization, Family Planning, STD, Well Child, and Prenatal clinics providing care to 3,530 clients.

Collaborated with Johnson County Mental Health to administer a brief depression assessment tool during blood pressure clinics and offered service referrals as needed.



## ADULT/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 daycares 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. Provides education and consultation to families, facility staff, and the community, as well as on-site oral hygiene services. Available to the public as a resource on state regulations and adult care facilities.

	2008	2007	2006
Adult Care Visits	411*	404*	400

\* 40 onsite classes taught to adult care facility staff in addition to monitoring visits.

### Significant Happenings

Assisted in the creation and chairing of the Johnson County Hoarding Task Force.

Expanded Elder Smiles program to cover five facilities.

Average monthly resident census: nursing homes - 2,403; assisted living facilities - 1,518; home plus - 13; adult daycare - 25. Total average is 3,959.

### Child Care Facilities Program

Provides health and safety information and education to child care providers and parents. Surveys licensed child care facilities completing initial, annual, and compliance check visits. 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.

	2008	2007	2006
Initial Survey Visits	854	893	872
All Other Visits	1,310	1,315	1,438
Illegal Care Visits	50	68	70
Total Facility Visits	2,222	2,276	2,380

### Significant Happenings

Provided childcare licensing testimony before two Kansas legislative committees.

Sponsored monthly orientation classes for new daycare providers.

Collaborated with 10 community partners to present 53 childcare provider workshops with 872 attendees.

Average number of children in out-of-home care: 21,171.

# 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).



	2008	2007	2006
Individuals Served	34,501	39,825	39,704
Wellness Screening Participants	2,165	2,070	2,712
Classes/Presentations Participants	21,982	21,753	18,029

Eldonna Chesnut, Nancy Tausz, and Renee Bryant receive a NACO Award of Excellence from Annabeth Surbaugh, Chairman of the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners.

## Significant Happenings

Conducted the Youth Tobacco Survey in 65 Johnson County schools.

Safe Kids Johnson County partnered with Charlie's Safe Haven to showcase a child-proofed nursery display at the Parade of Homes Tour.

Sponsored the first Johnson County Legislative Health Summit with the Kansas Public Health Association during Public Health Week.

Began offering Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) screenings.

# ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

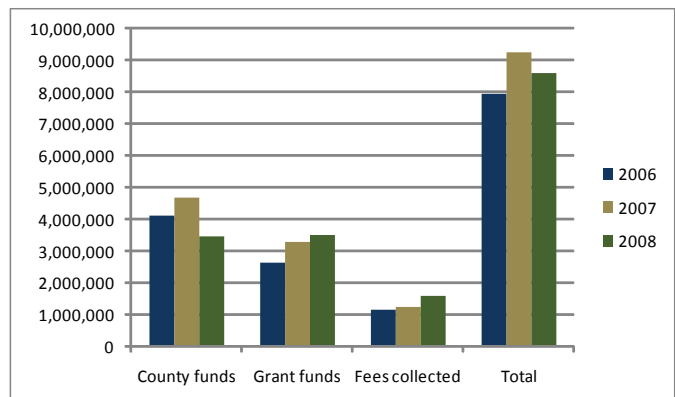
Coordinates fiscal monitoring, grant coordination, budgeting, auditing, reporting, accounting, statistics, billing, computer operations, human resources, payroll, and clerical tasks. Supports Health Department Divisions by scheduling appointments and follow-ups, medical chart preparation and auditing,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

## Significant Happenings

Implemented ImageNow, a document imaging system that scans medical records by indexing.

Began accepting credit cards as a method of payment for services and increased cash collection by seven percent over last year.

Initiated documentation scanning as a way of becoming more "green" and efficient.



## Johnson County Board of Health/Board of County Commissioners

Annabeth Surbaugh • Chairman

C. Edward Peterson • District 1

John P. Segale • District 2

David A. Lindstrom • District 3

Ed Eilert • District 4

Douglas E. Wood • District 5

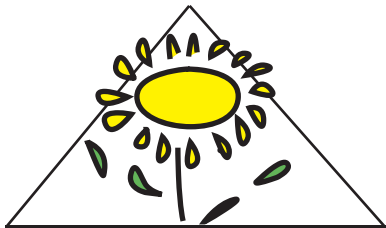
John M. Toplikar • District 6

## Johnson County Management

Michael B. Press • County Manager

Hannes Zacharias • Deputy County Manager

Bernice Duletski • Assistant County Manager



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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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