Public health works to improve the health, safety and well-being of the community. The goal of public health is to prevent diseases and injuries before they occur and make it easier for everyone to live a healthier lifestyle.
WE PREVENT THE SPREAD OF DISEASE.
We provide flu shots, STI testing, and we are ready to respond to any disease outbreak.

WE PROTECT AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS.
We make sure daycares, lodging facilities, and restaurants are clean and safe environments.

WE PROMOTE HEALTH BEHAVIORS.
Our staff can provide you with the health information you need to make healthy decisions about exercise, eating right, quitting smoking and safe sex.

WE PREVENT INJURIES AND ILLNESS.
We work to keep animals and people safe and healthy. We protect people from loose, rabid or wild animals, and we protect animals from being lost, stolen or hurt.

WE HELP YOU GET THE HEALTH SERVICES YOU NEED.
Our social services staff can help you find the services needed to live a healthy life. The WIC program provides nutrition support for local women, infants and children.
The 2018 Annual Report provides a snapshot of the work completed by the staff of the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services over the past year. As always, I am proud to sing the praises of our talented and dedicated staff with their strong public service spirit and their commitment to public health and human services.

As one example of our staff's commitment, I'd like to highlight our school flu vaccination program. During the 2018-2019 flu season, our staff provided 9,729 doses of flu vaccine in schools, the most we've ever done!! An additional 1,044 doses were administered to children in the PHHS clinic and other community outreach venues. Flu vaccination is the most important tool we have for preventing flu and flu complications. Providing free flu vaccinations to Boone County children in the school setting removes barriers for families who might not otherwise be able to have their children vaccinated against influenza. Studies have shown that school-based flu vaccination programs lower incidence of influenza in schools, reducing absenteeism, and can also provide indirect protection of other members of the community.

Stephanie Browning
Director
The Administration Unit is responsible for the overall management of daily department operations. Staff within this Unit strive to achieve goals in the areas of strategic planning, departmental budget, vital records (issue birth and death certificates) and public communications. Staff support is also provided to assist with the Board of Health.

8,240 Copies of Missouri Birth Certificates

8,787 Missouri Death Certificates Filed

23 Domestic Partnership Registries
The Animal Control Unit supports responsible pet ownership while helping keep animals and the public safe. Animal Control officers assist the public with a variety of services from investigating animal bite cases and educating the community on rabies prevention, to enforcing City and County animal ordinances, handling animal cruelty investigations and distributing free spay/neuter vouchers.

2,065
Calls for Service Answered by Animal Control Officers

421
Animals Impounded
The Community Health Unit prevents and treats diseases in order to help our community stay healthy. Staff provides services ranging from gynecological/breast exams and reproductive health services, to immunizations and communicable disease investigations (i.e. food-borne disease outbreaks, STIs, TB, etc.). The unit provides registered nurses to screen, assess, educate and promote the overall health of the community.

18,704
Immunizations Given

218
Annual Exams

2,259
STI Office Visits
The Community Health Promotion Unit provides health and wellness education to our community through a number of outreach programs focused on physical health, nutrition, adolescent health, sexual health and health literacy. Health educators place emphasis on evidence-based, comprehensive approaches to communitywide health promotion.

877
HIV Tests Conducted Outside of the Clinic

33,750
Condoms Distributed

9
Health Programs Hosted by Live Well by Faith Lifestyle Coach Volunteers and Health Educators
The Environmental Public Health Unit enforces laws and ordinances that keep our surroundings safe and healthy. Staff members dedicate their time to educating the public and providing services such as restaurant inspections and food handler education; daycare, lodging, and pool inspections; as well as enforcing county nuisance ordinances and wastewater permit programs.

- **2,181** Restaurant Inspections Conducted
- **3,638** Food Handler Cards Issued
- **229** On-site Wastewater Permits Issued
The Epidemiology, Planning and Evaluation Unit is responsible for monitoring the public health needs of residents through disease surveillance, quality improvement and planning. The Unit also addresses emergency and disaster preparedness through effective response planning and outreach efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live Well Boone County Focus Groups Held</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Health Assessment Surveys Analyzed</td>
<td>1,415</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reported Flu Cases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly School Surveillance Reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Reserve Corp Meetings</td>
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<td>Semiannual Reports for Emergency Preparedness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Health Assessment Published</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reported Diseases &amp; Conditions Analyzed</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Action Review Prepared</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Human Services Unit works to address the causes and effects of poverty by purchasing, coordinating and providing social services in our community. The staff provides a number of services such as medication and utility assistance, pregnancy testing and support through home visiting programs, and helping to access health insurance programs such as Medicaid and MC+.

252 Women Received Pregnancy Test Counseling
249 Women Received Pregnancy Support Services
1,066 Home Visits Provided to 56 Families
The Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) and Community Nutrition Unit provides income-based nutrition services to pregnant women, new mothers, babies, and children up to their fifth birthday. WIC staff helps families eat well and stay healthy through the implementation of breast feeding support, nutrition education and counseling, health screenings and risk assessments and referrals to health care as appropriate. This Unit also provides free lunch to children in Douglass Park through the summer Lunch in the Park program.

- **68.4%** WIC Participants Breastfeed
- **27,289** Total Participants Seen
- **2,779** Lunches Served in the Park
Reducing chronic disease health disparities

Overall, Boone County is a healthy community with a growing economy, well-educated residents and many health and community resources. Although good health outcomes and behaviors are prominent in Boone County, there are still gaps to close. Disparities were identified in the Community Health Assessment between racial and socioeconomic groups within income, education, birth outcomes, chronic diseases and health outcomes. In Boone County, black residents have higher rates of death than white residents for three of the four leading causes of cancers. The disparity is greater for prostate cancer, with black men dying at a rate three times higher than white men.

The Live Well by Faith program was developed in response to results found through the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) 2013 Community Health Assessment. This assessment found that Black residents in Boone County had significantly poorer health outcomes than White residents, particularly in regard to the prevalence of diabetes and hypertension. Reducing these disparities is essential to improving the overall health of Boone County.

Live Well by Faith’s goal is to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and hypertension by working with the black church community to create an environment that promotes health. Historically black churches expand beyond the traditional functions of worship and spiritual growth to impact the social, economic, and political welfare of their members and the surrounding community, which makes them uniquely poised to make an impact on the health of the black community. Live Well by Faith established relationships between PHHS and the black churches so they could work together to determine and address the specific needs of each church. Each church has health ministry teams or “Lifestyle Coaches” who are equipped with access to health education, evidence-based programs, technical support and the resources necessary to run effective programs. They are educated, trained and certified to teach the programs in order to promote sustainability within each church.
Our Mission
To promote and protect the health, safety, and well-being of the community through leadership, partnership, and service.

Our Vision
Optimal health, safety, and well-being for all.

Our Values
Customer Service
Communication
Continuous Improvement
Integrity
Teamwork
Stewardship