



Keeping Lexington PHABulous!

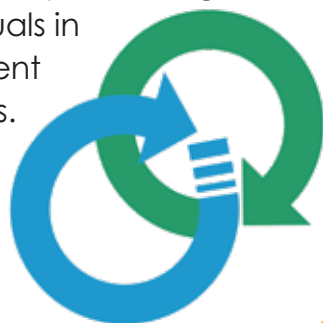
Lexington-Fayette County Health Department Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report

HARM REDUCTION PROGRAM

In Fiscal Year 21 (July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021), LFCHD's harm reduction program served **4,375** clients during **19,246** participant visits, received **757,088** needles, and distributed **945,556** sterile needles. The program connected **51** individuals to treatment referrals. June 2021 was the busiest month since the program opened in September 2015.

LFCHD dispensed **4,875** free naloxone kits, used to reverse opioid overdoses, to community members at the harm reduction program and at community events. Kits were funded through a grant award received by LFUCG. LFCHD received **\$96,000** in grant funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC) to expand naloxone training and distribution to inmates upon release from the local detention center. In

addition, these grantors provided **\$168,000** to support expanded naloxone distribution and education in the community, including individuals in treatment facilities.



LFCHD Achieves Reaccreditation

In February 2021, the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department achieved reaccreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board, to join an elite group of only 51 reaccredited local, state and tribal health departments in the nation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

View our 2020-2021 financial statements online at: www.lfchd.org/about-us

SCHOOL HEALTH

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, school health nurses were unable to return to in-person services at Fayette County Public Schools (FCPS) until February 2021. Between February 22 and June 30, **12,798** health office visits were documented. Following these visits, **82.5%** of the students were able to be returned to class. The school health services contract between LFCHD and FCPS was amended to **1)** provide additional summer school nursing hours, **2)** allow LFCHD school nurses and trained FCPS staff to offer rapid COVID-19 testing to symptomatic students and FCPS staff, and **3)** increase staffing to provide nursing services in two new FCPS special programs and full-time nurses in each middle school.



COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION & EQUITY

The LFCHD Community Health Education and Equity (CHEE) Wellness Program collaborated a third year with the Kentucky Farm Share Coalition, Organic Association of Kentucky, and Elmwood Stock Farm to offer LFCHD staff a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) produce subscription. LFCHD contributed **\$7,000** for **35** vouchers, which helped defray costs for some of the **63** LFCHD staff who participated in the program.

WIC PROGRAM

The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program continued to offer services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Physical exemption waivers remained in place, which allowed all WIC services to be conducted over the phone, provided no other barriers to service existed. From July 2020 to June 2021, the program saw an increase in the caseload from **5,859** to **6,064** participants, which is the highest level reached in three years.

With support from a grant award of **\$248,313** from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), LFCHD's WIC and clinic registration areas were renovated to improve the effectiveness of the workspace, address safety needs, and provide for additional privacy for clients and visitors.



HANDS PROGRAM

The LFCHD Health Access Nurturing Development Services (HANDS) program achieved **77%** of their home visit capacity in FY 2021, exceeding the **75%** goal set by the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, HANDS services evolved to meet the needs of the community through the addition of virtual home visitation.



COVID-19

RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021

RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

The COVID-19 pandemic response was the overriding focus and driver of much of LFCHD's activities during FY 21. As the community lead for public health, LFCHD provided expertise and guidance through communications, clinical services, outreach/education and more to ensure the community had trusted information and access to available personal-protective equipment, testing and vaccinations. Strategies for risk reduction and virus control included early case investigation and isolation, quarantine of close contacts, behavior modification like physical distancing and mask wearing, testing and vaccination.

Highlights of the response through June 30 are as follows:

- From July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, reports of **34,005** COVID-19 cases in Lexington residents were received.
- **\$5.6** million was spent on the response; **\$5.1** million was reimbursed through federal aid. As of June 30, 2021, net losses response to date were **\$1.2** million.

FLU VACCINATIONS

During FY 21, LFCHD provided a total of **1,558** influenza vaccines in a variety of settings, including **425** given during a free flu vaccine drive-through event in October 2020.

SOCIAL MEDIA

LFCHD continued to serve as a primary source of COVID-19 information for Fayette County. From July 2020 to July 2021, the health department's social media increased significantly.

The department played a vital role in the city's "LexDoThis!" campaign designed to encourage all eligible people to receive COVID-19 vaccine. Special efforts were undertaken to provide COVID-19 guidance and promote vaccination in African-American and Hispanic communities.



INSTAGRAM

Followers increased from **1,413** to **1,700**.
287 new followers!



TWITTER

1,255 total tweets with **1,637,700** tweet impressions and **923** new followers.



FACEBOOK

Followers increased from **3,632** to **17,200**.
13,568 new followers!

SOCIAL & CASE MANAGEMENT

As part of the COVID-19 response, LFCHD offered social and case management support by facilitating food referrals for confirmed cases, delivery of food from local food banks, and delivery of thermometers.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental Health staff performed **438** visits to follow up on positive COVID-19 cases identified at permitted food service establishments, as well as **536** visits to other workplaces to investigate compliance with executive orders issued by the governor with regards to occupancy capacity and masking requirements.



EPIDEMIOLOGY

LFCHD staff designed and supported a system for disease investigators, contact tracers, and epidemiologists to record and track cases, communicate with cases and contacts, and extract reports integral to communicating with the public. A total of **180** disease investigators and other staff were contracted at various times during FY 21 to assist in the agency's epidemiology response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The response included support to the community's healthcare and long-term care facilities, universities, schools, child care facilities, businesses, homeless shelters, recovery centers and the detention center.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The department's information technology (IT) staff supported a call center with mobile phone app technology. LFCHD's COVID-19 call center, staffed with health educators, school health nurses and others, responded to **39,287** individual calls from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

TUBERCULOSIS

In the first six months of 2021, 11 Fayette County residents diagnosed with active tuberculosis (TB) disease received monitoring and treatment via LPCHD's TB control program.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING

Through a partnership with the Kentucky Department for Public Health, LFCHD implemented a COVID-19 rapid antigen testing program. Rapid testing kits and training were made available to community partners in congregate living settings and schools, in order to test symptomatic people. In FY 21, **3,092** COVID-19 rapid antigen tests were completed and reported through this initiative. LFCHD also continued to deploy its at-home specimen collection and testing strategy for COVID-19, in an effort to target those in the community with barriers to obtaining testing for COVID-19, including lack of transportation. In FY 21, more than **3,000** PCR COVID-19 tests were completed using this methodology.

COVID-19 VACCINES

In collaboration with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government's (LFUCG) paramedics and volunteers from the Medical Reserve Corps, LFCHD administered **28,185** COVID-19 vaccinations between December 2020 and June 2021. Special vaccination events included 29 mass indoor clinics, **24** mini community clinics, and **1** drive-through clinic. IT staff developed a vaccine portal that was used to schedule and track COVID-19 vaccine administration.

