

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

We are  
Public Health



## BROOME COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



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# Message from the Director of Public Health

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2022 was another extraordinary year for public health! Expecting to rebuild and replenish a dedicated but weary workforce, we began the year responding to a COVID-19 tidal wave due to the new Omicron variant. Broome County saw a record shattering 857 cases on January 5th. Thankfully the Omicron variant was met with an army of advancements that would revolutionize COVID-19 as a virus we could “live with” for now. The steady progression of mitigation strategies included vaccination efforts that encompassed the full spectrum of age groups, a bivalent booster, increased community immunity, home testing options, new antiviral treatments, and a welcomed shift in contact tracing with

shorter isolation and no quarantines to ease disruption in our lives. To assist our community with these COVID-19 transitions, the health department instituted an online self-serve, COVID-19 case investigation system with education prompts and automated isolation agreements. This gave way for our community to return to some type of welcomed normalcy.

Mid-year of 2022, public health was confronted with mpox, Ebola, and the threat of a polio outbreak which sparked significant concern. Due to the infrastructure established during COVID-19, the Broome County Health Department was able to lead a coordinated community response. Our strong partnerships with local healthcare systems, educational institutions, community-based organizations, and elected officials provided great reassurance in our ability to react to and contain these unwelcomed viruses. In the Fall of 2022, the triple-epidemic ensued with a host of quick moving Omicron subvariants, influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Using the existing arsenal of knowledge and experience from ongoing communicable disease threats and outbreaks, health department response efforts were routine and robust. The end of 2022 marked the retirement of the Broome County COVID-19 Dashboard which for many was a daily go-to in the beginning of the pandemic.

Throughout 2022 the emerging communicable diseases stole the headlines, but health department staff diligently and unwaveringly continued to conduct their essential public health duties. They responded to a devastating record number of drug overdoses, escalating sexually transmitted infections, demand for early intervention assistance, Women Infant and Children (WIC) supplemental food services, childhood lead risk assessments, child safety seat checks and cancer screening referrals. Staff conducted a remarkable number of inspections for food establishments, camps, bathing beaches, pools, animal bites, and performed almost double the number of water supply tests compared to last year. The health department was able to execute a fiscally responsible budget for 2023, with county support proposed at only 28.99%. Many of our accomplishments would not have been possible without the help of our Public Health Fellows Program. These fellows increased staffing capacity in the health department during an upsurge of retirements and staff turnover. They assisted with the health department’s 2022-2025 Strategic Plan, the 2022-2024 Broome County Community Health Assessment update and obtained several grants.

For 2023, we look forward to renewing our local public health system, working closely with our county executive team, county departments, county legislature and our community partners to build a healthier Broome County.

*Mary McFadden*  
Director of Public Health



# Public Health in Action



WIC Visits  
2020: 14,704  
2021: 16,716  
**2022: 17,679**



Healthy Families Enrollments  
2020: 88  
2021: 90  
**2022: 101**



Welcome Baby Calls  
2020: 540  
2021: 1047  
**2022: 573**



Early Intervention Referrals  
2020: 405  
2021: 537  
**2022: 548**



Bicycle Helmets Distributed  
2020: 62  
2021: 316  
**2022: 327**



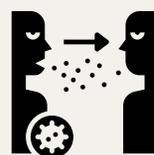
Lead Risk Assessments  
2020: 42  
2021: 27  
**2022: 45**



Animal Bite Investigations  
2020: 663  
2021: 563  
**2022: 723**



Immunizations Given  
2020: 489  
2021: 38,834  
**2022: 3,598**



Disease Investigations  
2020: 9,066  
2021: 19,070  
**2022: 28,338**



Cancer Screening Referrals  
2020: 575  
2021: 494  
**2022: 448**



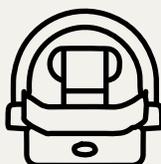
HIV Tests  
2020: 449  
2021: 264  
**2022: 489**



TB Clinic Visits  
2020: 119  
2021: 121  
**2022: 100**



Food Service Inspections  
2020: 469  
2021: 725  
**2022: 889**



Child Safety Seat Checks  
2020: 130  
2021: 201  
**2022: 172**



Water Supplies Tested  
2020: 52  
2021: 65  
**2022: 100**

# Highlights



- Launched a county-wide Teen Traffic Safety Video Contest.
- Received several special project grants including \$25,000 for the Medical Reserve Corps and \$75,000 for Partnering for Vaccine Equity.
- Worked with local hospital pharmacies to provide Deterra drug deactivation bags.
- Partnered with Binghamton University in hosting two special events aiming to increase awareness about cancers linked to the Human Papilloma Virus and how to prevent these cancers with the HPV vaccine.

- Received approval from NYSDOH to be a Community Sharps Disposal site which allowed us to place a disposal unit in the main lobby of the health department.
- Engaged with local medical providers through presentations and mailings about their role in preventing and managing patients with elevated blood lead levels. Also partnered with Binghamton University on a survey of medical providers to identify knowledge gaps and areas in need of more support.
- Hosted two Drug Takeback Days, collecting 1500 pounds of medications.
- Assisted four community organizations and workplaces in creating Sun Safety policies to incorporate sun safety procedure. Provided funding for eight agencies to implement environmental change to provide sun safety measures.
- Assisted several school districts with projects to foster healthy lifestyles including marking a walking trail, purchase of bicycles and helmets and installation of a community garden.
- Worked with Reality Check youth on several activities including attending the “Mobilize Against Tobacco Lies” conference and rally event in Albany, tabling events and Earth Day cigarette butt clean-up.
- Educated over 500 high school students about safe driving through class education and interactive activities.
- Made over 9,000 referrals for WIC participants for local resources, including smoking cessation, immunizations and emergency food assistance.

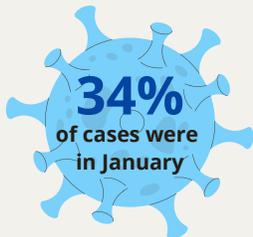
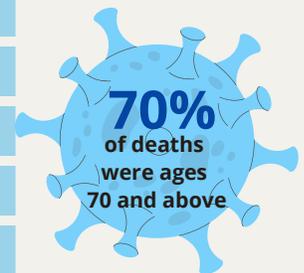
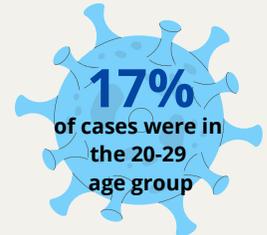


2022 Data by Month	Cases	Deaths
January	11,740	19
February	2446	11
March	1143	9
April	4617	6
May	4070	16
June	915	5
July	1403	6
August	1799	9
September	2150	10
October	2117	15
November	1182	17
December	1391	9



# COVID-19 Snapshot

2022 Cases by Age	Cases	Deaths
0-9 years	2968	0
10-19 years	4050	0
20-29 years	5903	0
30-39 years	5561	0
40-49 years	4522	4
50-59 years	4554	11
60-69 years	3670	24
70-79 years	2042	38
80-89 years	1215	34
90-99 years	416	18
100-109 years	13	3



## MPox Response

The 2022 MPox Outbreak began in early May as cases and clusters were detected in non-endemic countries around the world. While there were a significant number of cases in New York State, mostly concentrated in the New York City area and Broome County had only two cases in 2022.



In an effort to contain the outbreak and reduce the spread of the virus, we were eager to provide vaccines to high-risk individuals. Fortunately, NYSDOH asked Broome County Health Department to pilot a vaccine project with Southern Tier Aids Program (STAP) to distribute the JYNNEOS vaccine in our community. Our long history of working together made this a successful venture and resulted in several vaccine clinics and **248** vaccines given!

# Unmasking Public Health:



“ Services looked a little different though a camera or over the phone, during COVID-19, but early intervention continued. Being able to go back in person, put faces with names, seeing all the progress kids and their families made during this difficult time was amazing! We are so happy to be back in person helping families in Broome County!  
-Megan, Early Intervention

“ We have been offering community-wide Covid clinics for a long time now but we have really done a good part of getting to the rural and underserved populations of Broome County. People have really responded well and are happy to see us making our rounds in Broome County. Typically, when you bring the services right to the folks that need them, they are truly appreciative.  
- Allison, COVID-19 Vaccine Response

“ WIC continues to provide remote services to our participants. Although we miss seeing our families in person we continue to provide quality nutrition education, breastfeeding support and referrals to community agencies.  
-Michelle, WIC

“ For those struggling with a substance use disorder or their mental health during COVID, telehealth services and virtual options made it easier to access a primary care provider, support group or other mental health services. Often stigma can be a big barrier to accessing resources and although the pandemic has many negative impacts, this was a big win!  
-Marissa, Opioid Overdose Prevention

“ It's been a joy to bring the STD clinic back to the public. Not only did we miss the clients, they missed us.  
-Deanna, Clinic Services

“ It's fantastic to have the community back in our clinic and they have expressed how grateful they are for the services we offer. It was quiet in the clinic for too long and to have the energy of the public back in our building is wonderful.  
- Brittany, Clinic Services



# Tell us about transitioning back to your usual work...

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My favorite part about being back in-person is working with our older driver community again. For almost two years, it was impossible to hold any of our CarFit Events due to the health risks among this vulnerable population. Once the restrictions were lifted, the requests to hold events came flooding in. Not only were our CarFit Technicians eager to be out in the community again but it was so nice to see our mature drivers just as excited to see us!

-Christine, Traffic Safety Education

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Watching the young leaders in the Reality Check Program regain their sense of community after the pandemic has been a highlight for me this year. Our program involves engaging with others at community events which is a challenging goal to accomplish virtually so we are all thankful to be able to connect again!

-Nikole, Tobacco Free Broome & Tioga

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“

My experience being out in the public throughout this time period never really stopped. Over the past two years I've conducted gym inspections, Covid-19 field visits and supply drops, restaurant inspections with Covid-19 specific policies and without. In short this time period has felt like a rollercoaster ride with educational pitstops along the way. I'm grateful to have been a part of the experience in hopefully a positive way throughout the community and look forward to continuing to do so.

- Kamarin, Food Service & Rabies Control

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It's been invigorating to get out in the community to provide sunscreen, share information about the dangers of indoor tanning, and educate about the HPV vaccine and paid time off for cancer screenings to make the healthy choice the easy choice.

-Abby, Cancer Prevention in Action

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I've loved being back in the community to hear firsthand about their health concerns and priorities so we can meet them with what they need and want.

-Aimee, Creating Healthy Schools & Communities

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“

Being in the field again has proven to show how much more of an impact we can have on the community while being able to work face-to-face with individuals again. We are able to actually see the positive effects we are making on our community's health.

- Alana, Lead Poisoning Prevention

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# Healthy Neighborhoods Start with Healthy Homes

Healthy Housing is a group of three programs dedicated to reducing environmental hazards and making the home a healthier, safer place. These three programs are: Healthy Neighborhoods, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, and HUD Lead Hazard Reduction.



“ We relaunched HNP this year and Chris Taft hit the ground running with it, making nearly 50 visits in 4 months! We performed 42 lead inspections, presented to the general medical staff of both UHS and Lourdes to review lead testing requirements, and achieved over 32,000 interactions with the public during International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week!

-Heather

Healthy Neighborhoods provides in-home safety assessments, help with fire safety, asthma management, smoking cessation, falls prevention, as well as free safety and cleaning products.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides care coordination, nutritional counseling, in-home lead inspections, and EPA led renovator certification classes for children and pregnant people with elevated blood lead levels.

HUD allows us to provide funding to make eligible properties lead-safe by working with trained and trusted contractors. Visit: [gobroomecounty.com/eh/healthyhomes](http://gobroomecounty.com/eh/healthyhomes) for more information!



SCAN ME



Scan to request a home safety check!

# Public Health Fellowship Program



In February 2022, BCHD welcomed a group of Graduate and Undergraduate Public Health Fellows. The New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) created a program to build public health capacity to support COVID-19 vaccination operations and preparedness for future public health emergencies.

NYSPHC fellows have worked on various projects throughout the year and were an additional support to help the HD get back on track after the initial COVID-19 emergency response.



The fellowship has been an amazing opportunity to learn more about infectious diseases and emergency preparedness. -Jason



The fellowship has provided me with the opportunity to further my understanding and gain experience in emergency preparedness throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and Mpox outbreak. -Amy

I am so grateful to be a part of the fellowship program. Being able to learn more about my specific interests, while also gaining knowledge and experiences in various public health areas has been a great educational opportunity! -Val

I'm so grateful for this experience. I enjoyed doing outreach in our community and was able to complete a Community Health Survey while updating the Community Health Assessment to assess public viewpoint on the COVID-19 Pandemic. -Julie

We got training in different divisions to see where we fit into the health workforce, which is great for someone who is just starting their career. I have also been lucky to work on our Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan. These projects allowed me to get to know our community in new ways through data and interpersonal interactions, and to have a hand in forming the county's plan to respond to new issues brought on by the pandemic. -Meg



Through the fellowship, I have been able to be involved in the After Action Report writing process and work on a grant focusing on flu and vaccine uptake in Broome County. It has been a great learning experience! -Anna



# Programs & Services

Campgrounds & Children's Camps Inspections  
Cancer Services Program of the Southern Tier  
Cancer Prevention in Action  
Child Fatality Review Team  
Child Find  
Children with Special Healthcare Needs  
Chronic Disease Interventions  
Clinic Services for STDs, Immunizations  
& Tuberculosis  
Communicable Disease Control  
Early Intervention  
Food Service  
Healthy Families Broome



Healthy Neighborhoods  
HIV Counseling and Testing  
Immunization Action Plan  
Indoor Air Quality  
Lead Poisoning Prevention  
Mobile Home Parks  
Public Health Emergency Preparedness  
Preschool Special Education  
Opioid Prevention  
Rabies Control  
Swimming Pools & Bathing Beaches  
Temporary Residences  
Tobacco Free Broome & Tioga  
Traffic Safety Program  
Wastewater Treatment  
Water Supplies  
Welcome Baby Outreach  
Women, Infants & Children

# 2022 Staff

Peggy Almy  
 Victoria Alt  
 Bonnie Ayers\*  
 Maggie Barlow  
 Lynette Bellmore  
 Michael Bender  
 Susan Blythe  
 Miranda Bookhout  
 Melissa Brennan  
 Irene Brewer  
 Tameira Card  
 Aimee Chalusant  
 Leon Clement  
 Carrie Colgan  
 Rebecca Cronk  
 Kathy Czebiniak  
 Patricia Davies  
 Jennina Doolittle  
 Peggy Duffy  
 Renee Dutcher  
 Christopher Errante  
 Amy Fassold  
 Catherine Fedor  
 Michelle Figuerado

Kamran Fisher  
 Stephanie Fuller  
 Danial Furman  
 Leslie Gale-Cseledy  
 Deborah Gregory  
 Nicole Grello  
 Peter Haff  
 Rachael Hamlin  
 Creig Hebdon  
 Virginia Hill  
 Benjamin Holden  
 Marian Hollander  
 Allison Holleran  
 Carrie Horton  
 Jackie Hulbert  
 Nikole Hurlbert  
 Jessica Hust  
 Mark Jasinski  
 Yvonne Johnston  
 Colleen Kachmar  
 Abigail Kaiser  
 Joseph Kane  
 Laura Kelly\*  
 Aubri Kenyon  
 Marissa Knapp  
 Taylor Knapp

Andin Kovarik Roeber  
 Matthew Laine  
 Justin Lewis  
 Christine Marion  
 Kathleen Marsh  
 Roberta May  
 Stacy McCabe  
 Mary McFadden\*\*\*  
 Katherine McManus  
 Susan Medina  
 Alana Mihok  
 Emily Missavage  
 Linda Mohr  
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 Heather Ousterout  
 Val Palmeri  
 Chloe Parker  
 Carol Peeling  
 Victoria Perkins  
 Joshua Phelps  
 Callista Proutey  
 Svetlana Rauzin  
 Chelsea Reome-Nedlik  
 Meg Reynolds  
 Nadine Riese  
 Tenisha Rivers-Hill  
 Kristin Russell  
 Dr. Christopher Ryan  
 Heather Ryan



Farah Sainclair-  
 Enriquez  
 Kelly Saunders  
 Mark Schuster  
 Katelyn Shear  
 Mark Shuba  
 Silvy Sibó  
 Elizabeth Smalt  
 Blenda Smith  
 Pamela Spak  
 David Spicer\*\*\*\*  
 Scott Spicer  
 Laura Staffa  
 Charlene Starchok  
 Patricia Stevens  
 Melissa Sutherland  
 Timothy Swan  
 Christopher Taft  
 Daniel Treadwell  
 Julie Very  
 Brittany Vincent  
 Leslie Wade  
 Sarah Walker  
 Deanna Walsh  
 Megan Westcott  
 Patrick Wood  
 Marianne Yourdon  
 Jason Zheng  
 Margo Zodikoff



## 2022 Anniversaries:

- \* 10 years of service
- \*\* 20 years of service
- \*\*\* 30 years of service
- \*\*\*\* 31+ years of services

## Special Acknowledgements

### County Executive & Team

Jason Garnar  
 Colleen Wagner  
 Michael Ponticiello

### Health & Human Services Committee

Karen Beebe  
 Jason E. Shaw, Chair  
 Matthew J. Hilderbrant  
 Mary A. Kaminsky  
 Cindy L. O'Brien

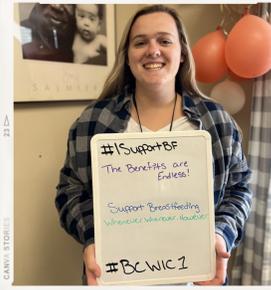
### Health Advisory Board

Dr. Niru Anne  
 Karen Beebe  
 Kay Boland  
 Dr. David Carter  
 Jeff Davis  
 Wayne Mitteer  
 Dr. Richard Moose  
 Kim Myers  
 John Spencer, Chairperson  
 Dr. Ann Teng

# Welcome!



Nicole Brown  
 Tamiera Card  
 Amy Fassold  
 Taylor Knapp  
 Anna Lynch  
 Valerie Palmeri  
 Meg Reynolds  
 Lacey Stevens  
 Julie Very  
 Patrick Wood  
 Jason Zheng



# Farewell!



Peggy Almy  
 Miranda Bookhout  
 Irene Brewer  
 Deborah Gregory  
 Rachael Hamlin  
 Ginny Hill  
 Marion Hollander  
 Jackie Hulbert  
 Jessica Hust

Mark Jasinski  
 Joseph Kane  
 Emily Missavage  
 Aubrey Kenyon  
 Nadine Riese  
 Daniel Treadwell  
 Leslie Wade  
 Marianne Yourdon



# Health Department

Our mission is to serve our residents by promoting and protecting public health through education and prevention.



Broome County Health Department

