



# BROOME COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



# 2025

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://BROOMECOUNTYNY.GOV/HD](https://broomecountyny.gov/hd)  
PHONE: 607-778-3930  
FAX: 607-778-2838  
EMAIL: [BCHEALTH@BROOMECOUNTYNY.GOV](mailto:BCHEALTH@BROOMECOUNTYNY.GOV)

# A FULL SERVICE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Founded in 1964 from the work done by towns, states, and other county Health departments, Broome County Health Department, part of Broome County Government, has a long history serving our community. As a full-service health department, we provide comprehensive public health services in Broome County. Serving over 195,700 residents.

**We:**

- Educate
- Connect to resources
- Prevent illness
- Provide medical care
- Promote Health

**Follow:**

- NYS Public Health Law
- NYS Sanitary Code
- Broome County Charter and Code



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# MESSAGE FROM OUR PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

Our team at Broome County Health Department are full of knowledgeable, compassionate and friendly public health department members. I am honored to help these public health professionals serve the residents of Broome County.

Our team listens to community needs, responds to them and does it with a smile. Our knowledge of public health law, NYS sanitary code, county code and requirements is always evolving. Our team looks for gaps in our local system and works to address them through grants that helps us provide the services our residents need. We even work to bring new projects here to support our county like Healthy Broome.

I'd like to thank Lynette Bellmore, for her leadership during the first half of the year in her role as Interim Public Health Director. Her ability to step up to the role while leading the Maternal Child Health and Development division is commendable. I look forward to the growth of our health department and continued program success.

## **OLIVIA CATALANO, MHA DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**



2025 brought exciting new beginnings to the health department as we welcomed a new Public Health Director, Olivia Catalano. Olivia has quickly learned the intricacies of the department and has approached her role with energy and enthusiasm. I transitioned out of the role of Interim Public Health Director knowing that the health department, with Olivia's leadership, would continue to strengthen our commitment to the community while upholding the department's mission and values in 2026!

## **LYNETTE BELLMORE, LMSW INTERIM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**





# MESSAGE FROM OUR MEDICAL DIRECTOR

At the Broome County Health Department, we are bringing public health into a new, dynamic era by using progressive health measures focusing on education, service, health equity, and healthy lifespan, while utilizing the best and most up-to-date medical evidence to guide our responses to communicable disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and other public health emergencies. Our goal is to continue fostering solid community ties between our local hospital systems, outpatient offices, and the various important care programs throughout our community. We desire to bring public health into the sphere of vigorous community discussion while following scientific evidence for appropriate community health measures. This is an exciting time for public health, and it is an honor to serve the residents of Broome County as we approach the coming year.

**LAZARUS GEHRING, MD**





# VISION



Optimal health and equity where we live, learn, work and play.

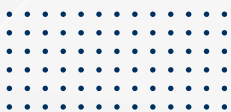


# MISSION

Broome County Health Department serves our residents by promoting and protecting public health through education and prevention.



# CORE VALUES



# MEET OUR TEAM

Bonnie Ayers  
Mariana Barrancos  
Lynette Bellmore  
Michelle Bertoni  
Susan Blythe  
Melissa Brennan  
Nicole Brown  
Abby Burdick  
Olivia Catalano  
Leon Clement  
Juliet Cole  
Carrie Colgan  
Rebecca Cronk  
Patricia Davies  
Elise Deveau  
Renee Dutcher  
Peggy Duffy  
Christopher Errante  
Catherine Fedor  
Michelle Figuerado  
Stephanie Fuller  
Daniel Furman  
Leslie Gale-Cseledy  
Maggie Gareca  
Alexis Gates  
Lazarus Gehring  
Elizabeth Gilbert  
Madison Glezen  
Benjamin Holden  
Carrie Horton  
Chloe Hunker  
Nikole Hurlbert  
Kristine Jessup  
Yvonne Johnson  
Colleen Kachmar

Abby Kaiser  
Laura Kelly  
Marissa Knapp  
Andin Kovarik Roeber  
Matthew Laine  
Connor Lawless  
Justin Lewis  
Devin Link  
Magadalina Gareca  
Christine Marion  
Kathleen Marsh  
Roberta May  
Andrew Mitchell  
Heather Ousterout  
Carol Peeling  
Rose Petitti  
Nathanial Poklemba  
Emily Polanish  
Svetlana Rauzin  
Chelsea Reome-Nedlik  
Danielle Renaud  
Tenisha Rivers Hill  
Kyley Romanoski  
Heather Ryan  
Katherine Salmon  
Mark Schuster  
Kara Searles  
Katelyn Shear  
Ty Shields  
Mark Shuba  
Silvy Sibo  
Pamela Spak  
Alicia Spencer  
David Spicer

Scott Spicer  
Charlene Starchok  
Tierra Starkweather  
Erin Stalder  
Lacey Stevens  
Patrica Stevens  
Melissa Sutherland  
Timothy Swan  
Kasandra Tohafjian  
Sarah Walker  
Deanna Walsh  
Brianna Wasko  
Megan Westcott  
Kala Woodring  
Margo Zodikoff

## County Executive Team

Jason Garnar  
Colleen Wagner  
Hal McCabe  
*Farewell to:*  
*Michael Ponticiello*

## Health & Human Services Committee

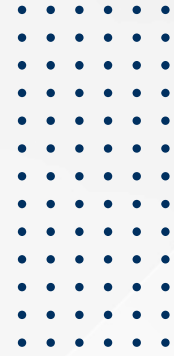
Jason Shaw  
Kim Myers  
Timothy Ames  
Matt Hilderbrant  
Louie Augostini

## Health Advisory Board

John Spencer  
David Carter, MD  
Richard Moose, MD  
Ann Teng, MD



# STAFF UPDATES



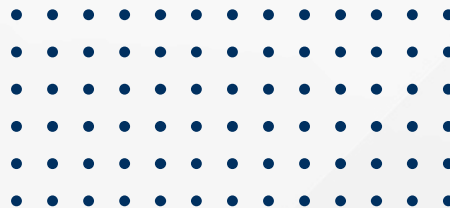
## WELCOME

Mariana Barrancos  
Olivia Catalano  
Elise DeVeau  
Magadalina Gareca  
Madison Glezen  
Rose Petitti  
Nate Poklemba  
Danielle Renaud  
Kyley Romanofski  
Katherine Salmon  
Brianna Wasko



## FAREWELL

Michael Bender  
Natalie Camber  
Tamiera Card  
Jennina Doolittle  
Kamaran Fisher  
Rebecca Gelunas  
Tracy Mahar  
Grace Merrill  
Linda Mohr  
Victoria Perkins  
Joshua Phelps  
Amber Pleus  
Heather Rybacki  
Christopher Taft  
Matthew Thornton  
Brittany Vincent





# HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## PROGRAMS & SERVICES

### Environmental Health

Water Monitoring  
 Toxic/Solid Waste Dumpsites  
 Food Services  
 Wastewater Treatment  
 Indoor Air Quality (Tobacco & Non-tobacco)  
 Temporary Residences, Campground & Children's  
 Camps  
 Mobile Home Parks  
 Rabies Control  
 Swimming Pool & Beach Inspection  
 HUD Lead Hazard Control Program  
 Tick-Borne Disease Prevention  
 Emergency Response to Environmental Hazards  
 Public Health Nuisance

### Women, Infants and Children

Nutrition Assessment & Education  
 Breastfeeding Support & Equipment  
 Tailored food packages & Farmers Market Vouchers  
 Referrals to Community Partners

### Administration/Fiscal

Child-Fatality Review Team  
 Community Education

### Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Broome County Medical Reserve Corps  
 Project Public Health Ready

### Overdose Prevention Program

Coordinate the Broome Overdose Action  
 Collaborative (BOAC)  
 Free Narcan (Naloxone) Trainings  
 Substance Use Disorder & Harm Reduction  
 Education

Anti-Stigma Campaign and Education  
 Referrals for Basic Needs and Linkage to Care  
 Management of Opioid Settlement Funds

### Community Health and Clinics

Cancer Services Program of the Southern Tier  
 Creating Healthy Schools & Communities  
 Tobacco Free Broome & Tioga  
 Traffic Safety Program  
 Child Passenger Safety Program  
 Handicapped Parking Education Program  
 Immunization Action Plan  
 Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program  
 Lead Rental Registry  
 Clinic Services (STD's Immunizations, Tuberculosis)  
 Communicable Disease Control & Surveillance  
 HIV Counseling & Testing  
 Vaccines for Children & Adults Programs  
 Welcome Baby Outreach  
 Community Health Assessment & Improvement Plan  
 Health Advisory Board  
 Policy Committee  
 Infection Control Committee

### Maternal Child Health and Development

Child Find  
 Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs  
 Early Intervention  
 Preschool Special Education  
 Healthy Families Broome



### Program Acronyms

- CFRT - Child Fatality Review Team
- CHSC - Creating Healthy Schools & Communities
- CLPPP+ - Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program +
- CSP - Cancer Services Program
- EI - Early Intervention
- HFB - Healthy Families Broome
- HNP - Healthy Neighborhoods Program
- HUD - Housing & Urban Development
- IAP - Immunization Action Plan
- OPP - Overdose Prevention Program
- TFBT - Tobacco Free Broome & Tioga
- TSP - Traffic Safety Program
- WIC - Women, infants, and Children



# 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLANNING PROGRESS



### Staffing

**Onboarding plan enhanced for new team members coming in**  
**Development opportunities provided to staff through internal and external training**  
**Sustainability committee works on ways to keep our footprint small**  
**Team given options to grow in the department**

### Safety & Wellness

**Staff Safety enhancement in reporting**  
**Well-being activities hosted for group exercise, therapy dogs, walking groups and team-building exercises**  
**Increased healthy food options for staff while at work**

### IT and Modernization

**Moved away from paper systems where possible**  
**Updated our clinical health records to improve efficiency**  
**Moved paper forms to electronic platforms**  
**Trained staff on new statewide systems for documentation**  
**Documenting platforms**

### Social Media and Branding

**Staff Outreach events in community**  
**Guidelines developed and enhanced staff knowledge**  
**Multiple programs cross posting relevant information**  
**Additional Media platforms added**

### Internal and External Communication

**Public Feedback Avenues**  
**Enhancing External Communication**  
**Regular full staff meetings**  
**Updates made to Health Department website**

# PUBLIC HEALTH IN ACTION



## Healthy Broome

In August, our department, along with other county departments, worked on a coordinated effort to bring trained military medical personnel to the county to provide no-cost medical, dental, vision, and veterinary services.

Overview of each service provided:

- 561 Behavioral Health Appointments
- 328 Dental Appointments
- 230 Medical Appointments
- 333 Optometry Appointments
- 314 Glasses provided
- 296 Veterinary Services

Total 2,062 Services provided



## Food Access

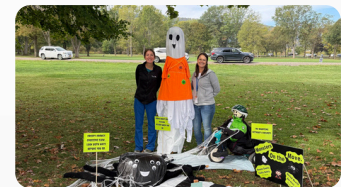
Greater Good grocery bus is at BCHD weekly

Our WIC team partnered with Broome County and local officials during the SNAP Emergency to spread awareness of WIC as a point of access for food.



## Traffic Safety

Traffic safety hosted many safety demonstrations for seniors and youth. They provided car seats and trained technicians in the community. Our team did community education on safe driving.




## Clinical Care

Our clinics team hosted multiple flu vaccine clinics for county staff and first responders.






# PROGRAM & DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS




**Total WIC Participants Served**  
**2023: 18,254**  
**2024: 19,011**  
**2025: 18,860**




**Healthy Families Broome Enrollments**  
**2023: 104**  
**2024: 106**  
**2025: 115**




**Welcome Baby Calls**  
**2023: 1,060**  
**2024: 1,683**  
**2025: 1,690**



**Early Intervention Referrals**  
**2023: 480**  
**2024: 493**  
**2025: 436**



**Bicycle Helmets Distributed**  
**2023: 361**  
**2024: 403**  
**2025: 614**



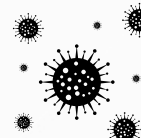
**Total Number of Clinic Patients Served**  
**2023: 1,257**  
**2024: 1,335**  
**2025: 1,448**




**Animal Bite Investigations**  
**2023: 724**  
**2024: 739**  
**2025: 769**



**Clinic Services Provided**  
**2023: 769**  
**2024: 619**  
**2025: 1,550**




**Disease Investigation**  
**2023: 11,869**  
**2024: 10,799**  
**2025: 9,367**



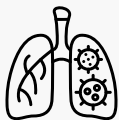
**Cancer Screening Referrals**  
**2023: 295**  
**2024: 410**  
**2025: 456**



**HIV Tests**  
**2023: 533**  
**2024: 619**  
**2025: 713**



**New WIC Participants Enrolled**  
**2023: 589**  
**2024: 717**  
**2025: 496**



**TB Clinic Visits**  
**203: 220**  
**2024: 243**  
**2025: 230**



**Food Service Inspections**  
**2023: 1,141**  
**2024: 1,033**  
**2025: 1,203**




**Number of Children with Special Health Care Needs Referred**  
**2032: 627**  
**2024: 648**  
**2025: 655**



**Child Safety Seat Checks**  
**2023: 214**  
**2024: 165**  
**2025: 174**



**Number of Tobacco Free Outdoor & Organizational Policies Developed**  
**2023: 7**  
**2024: 31**  
**2025: 4**



**Number of People Educated in Child Passenger Safety**  
**2023: 76**  
**2024: 284**  
**2025: 282**

# PROGRAM & DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

## Vaccines for Children



2023: 41  
2024: 139  
2025: 521

## Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA)



2023: 147  
2024: 146  
2025: 365

## Creating Healthy Schools & Communities (CHSC) Partner Engagement



2023: 188  
2024: 276  
2025: 1,536

## Vaccines for Adults



2023: 11  
2024: 29  
2025: 136

## Overdose Prevention Program Kits Dispensed



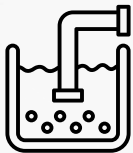
2023: NA  
2024: 1,565  
2025: 8,581

## Sexual Transmitted Infection (STI) Visits



2023: 948  
2024: 970  
2025: 1,269

## Septic System Permits



2023: 133  
2024: 116  
2025: 82

## Public Water Supply Inspections



2023: 71  
2024: 84  
2025: 78

## Healthy Neighborhoods Visits



2023: 106  
2024: 155  
2025: 132

## Number of Children newly diagnosed with Elevated Blood lead levels



2023: 51  
2024: 37  
2025: 45

## Children discharged from CLPPP+



2023: 12  
2024: 31  
2025: 37

## Properties made lead-safe



2023: 17  
2024: 40  
2025: 75

## HUD Grant Lead Inspections & Risk Assessments



2023: 38  
2024: 23  
2025: 34

## HUD Properties Fixed



2023: 39  
2024: 8  
2025: 40





# A YEAR IN PHOTOS





# HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF DEVELOPMENT

## **Administrative & Fiscal**

Emergency Preparedness staff, along with the Public Health Director, attended a Mass Casualty Incidental exercise to review county resources and prepare in the event of a large-scale event.

Emergency Preparedness staff attended psychological first aid training.

Overdose Prevention staff attended a Fatality Review forum to learn how to reduce overdose deaths.

Administration and Emergency Preparedness attended a NYS training on extreme weather, flooding preparedness and responding to weather emergencies.

Fiscal staff trained on CountyConnect

## **Maternal Child Health & Development**

Early Intervention staff attended training on parenting under pressure, Medicaid fundamentals.

Attended a Care Compass Network (CCN) Regional Trauma-Informed Care (RTIC) 6th Annual Partnering for a Resilient Community Learning Symposium Connecting the Pieces: Restoring Balance and Well-Being

Attended the Binghamton Regional Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (BRCASD) Spring Conference

Attended Counting Spoons: A New Perspective on Caregiver Collaboration.

## **Community Health**

CHSC staff attended training on ways to keep active together and on grant writing,

Traffic Safety staff attended training on child passenger safety, reviewing changes to the design and usage of Evenflo car seats.

Public Health educators attended an empowered leadership training to help cultivate well-being and provide resources for mental health.

CLPPP+, HNP & HUD staff attended a conference on Lead & Healthy Housing issues, which helped them learn from others about interventions to improve residential environment health in Broome County.

Cancer Screening Program attended training on colorectal screening in rural communities to learn about best practices from the American Cancer Society.



### WIC

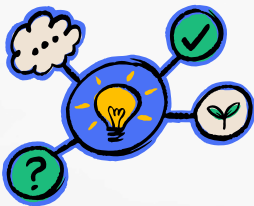
- Nutritionists attended Supporting and Promoting Breastfeeding
- Nutritionists attended Chestfeeding and Lactation
- WIC Director attended Adverse Childhood Experiences
- WIC Director attended Getting Connected to Your Local Head Start
- Nutritionists and WIC Director attended Skin to Skin is Not Universal: Teaching Equity
- WIC Director attended New York State Public Health Essentials eCornell Certification

### Environmental Health

- Interim Director of EH attended a NYSACHO EH Training on planning tools for environmental health and responding to floods.
- Groundwater Management Specialist and Public Health Sanitarians attended a training from NYS DOH on clean indoor air, camp safety, and water regulations.
- HUD Program Manager attended school to understand how to run a successful program, helping to fix lead, asbestos and other health hazards in homes.
- Public Health Sanitarians completed their Lead Inspector Certification Training, which helps them clearly identify lead in homes, and follow best practice to help the issues get fixed.
- Our team members worked with staff from NYS DOH for our water and ATUPA programs. This helps us with program overview, compliance, and updated requirements.
- Ground Water Management specialist attended trainings on sanitary surveys of ground water and surface water systems

### Clinics

- Clinics team attended the NYS AIDS Training Day for STI nurses to learn about current treatment guidelines and community trends.
- Clinics team attended a Syphilis reporting/investigating for the Communicable Disease team by NYSDOH.
- Public Health Educators attended inventory management review for VFC/VFA by NYSDOH, a vaccine access program that helps people without insurance get access to life-saving vaccines.
- Clinics team attended an Emergency Response webinar by CDC to help us prepare for emergencies.
- Our CHA internal team, attended a training on How to Conduct a CHA/CHIP by NYSACHO to help us prepare for our county CHA and CHIP.
- Qualitative Data webinar to learn about the benefits of data in health reporting and outcomes.
- Clinics team attended an HIV webinar by Dr. Rosman, in response to an increase in HIV in our area.



# HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF DEVELOPMENT

# NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

## National Public Health Week



## National Food Waste Prevention Week



This year we celebrated the 30th year of National Public Health Week.

Our staff took time to look at BCHD history to see how far we have come and the benefits we continue to bring to our community like vaccine access, investigating food-borne illness and more.

We honored our staff with an appreciation lunch and bringing in therapy dogs. We know health includes mental and physical health.

We spoke with medical students about public health, how environment impacts your health and health department services.





# STAFF WELLNESS EVENTS

THE WELLNESS COMMITTEE PROMOTES OVERALL EMPLOYEE WELL-BEING BY ASSESSING STAFF NEEDS, ORGANIZING MEANINGFUL WELLNESS PROGRAMS, AND ENCOURAGING HEALTHY HABITS ACROSS PHYSICAL, MENTAL, AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS



R.I.P.P.E.D. is a total body workout that puts the FUN in FUNctional athletic based training. The formulaic combination of Resistance, Interval, Power, Plyometrics, Endurance, and Diet require the body to respond to the constantly changing format within the class. Leslie teaches a 45 min express version. The class lasts approximately 40 minutes. This includes a warmup and cool down. Participants used items like canned goods or water bottles instead of hand weights. They worked to get their heart rates up, improving cardio, building muscle, and sweating stress away.

Therapy Dogs – 607 Therapy Dogs visit the Health Department so staff can take a short break to de-stress with the therapy dogs.

Secret Santa is a holiday gift exchange tradition where health department staff are randomly assigned a team member to whom they anonymously give gifts.

Progressive Lunches - a social lunch event where health department travel to different health department divisions for each course of a meal. They are able to meet new staff and visit parts of the health department they may not typically interact with.

Some of our accomplishments are organizing door-decorating activities, running the snack cart, and increasing staff activity through our walking challenges and groups.



# HEALTH DEPARTMENT FISCAL REPORT

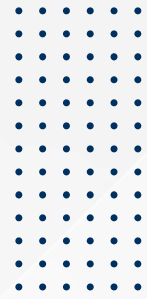
## 2025 REVENUE BY DIVISION

Division	Dept. Income	State Aid	Fed. Aid	Misc. Inc.	Total	% of Total
Admin.	185,396	822,405	0	947	1,008,748	5.51%
Env Health	406,545	273,432	0	0	679,977	3.71%
Clinics	147,314	455,795	0	0	603,109	3.29%
MCH & D	1,261,465	6,266,869	0	39,924	7,568,258	41.33%
Grants	53,817	3,004,783	4,430,254	961,928	8,450,782	46.15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,054,537</b>	<b>10,823,284</b>	<b>4,430,254</b>	<b>1,002,799</b>	<b>18,310,874</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>6%</b>		<b>100%</b>

The Broome County Health Department's largest revenue source is funding from New York State (59%) followed by support from the federal government (24%). The majority of our revenue sources (46.15%) is through the 27 grants held at the health department for a total of \$8,450,782.



# HEALTH DEPARTMENT FISCAL REPORT CONTINUED



## 2025 EXPENDITURES BY DIVISION

Division	Expenditures	% of Total
Admin.	2,477,813	9%
Env Health	1,076,951	4%
Clinics	1,253,978	5%
MCH & D	13,387,068	50%
Grants	8,448,885	32%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,644,695</b>	<b>100%</b>

The Maternal Child Health and Development division was the largest segment (50%) of the health department’s budget. This division focuses on serving children at risk for or diagnosed with development delays and disabilities. They offer assistance for young children ages 0–3 and 3–5 through their Early Intervention and Preschool programs, respectively.

Overall, the Broome County Health Department was able to execute a fiscally responsible budget for 2025, with the county support proposed at only 29.64% of eligible expenditures.





# COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT (CHA)

**2025-2030  
ASSESSMENT COMPLETE**

Our team completed the 2025-2030 Community Health Assessment (CHA). The framework for this comes from the NYS Department of Health Prevention Agenda. This prevention agenda is the NYS Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

This assessment gathers feedback from our community, local medical providers, and service providers. Data is analyzed and a plan is formed on how we can work to improve our community's health over the next few years.

Our Community Health Assessment is a joint effort with Guthrie Lourdes Hospital and UHS Hospitals. Many local services providers come together to work on collaborative efforts to improve our community's health during this 6-year cycle.

We hosted a full day symposium with local partners to review survey results, hear from experts in our community, review our county and state data, and select our three priority areas.

Our three main priority areas for this cycle are:


- Housing
- Anxiety & Stress
- Poverty


You can view our CHA here:  
<https://broomecountyny.gov/hd/cha>




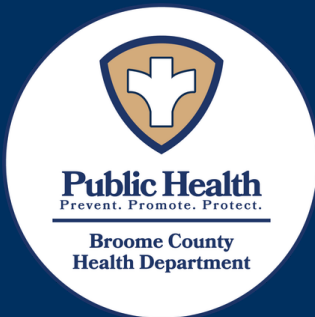
**BROOME COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT**

**2025-2030**

 Olivia Catalano, MHA Director of Public Health  
Broome County Public Health

 John Carrigg, President & CEO  
United Health Services

 Kathy Connerton, President & SVP  
Guthrie Lourdes Hospital



# BROOME COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



 225 Front Street  
Binghamton, NY 13905

 607.778.3930

 <https://broomecountyny.gov/hd>

