



Ohio & Crawford County Public Health Timeline

March 2019

1900s Leading Cause of death is flu/pneumonia, tuberculosis, gastrointestinal illness.

1918 Spanish Flu kills 25-50 million people worldwide.

1919 Hughes-Griswold Act establishes basis for combined health districts and sets in motion the creation of most county health departments setting minimum standards

The Hughes-Griswold Act, passed in 1919, established municipal and general health districts across the state of Ohio to ensure that the state could effectively respond to public health crises. Although all municipalities in Ohio were required to form a Board of Health in 1893, after a statewide smallpox epidemic in 1917 and the nationwide influenza epidemic in 1918, it became clear that a more comprehensive and formalized approach to public health was necessary. In April 1919, Representative Hughes of Lorain introduced a law that established 102 health districts of two classes: municipal (in cities over 25,000) and general health (villages and townships). Each health district was required to have a full-time health commissioner, at least one full-time public health nurse, and at least one fulltime clerk. While the bill did not pass before the legislature adjourned, when they reconvened, the legislature passed the Hughes Bill with the Griswold Amendment in December of 1919. The amendment allowed for cities of 5,000 people or more to constitute a city health district and altered requirements for the Board of Health.

On August 8, 2019, the 1st Crawford County Board of Health District Advisory Committee met to establish a health department to serve the 16 townships and 5 villages in Crawford County. The cities of Bucyrus and Galion retained their own health departments.

1920s On January 24, 1920 the first Crawford County Health Commissioner is hired, Dr. J.J. Martin, at a salary of \$2,000/year.

September 10, 1920 an emergency quarantine regulation is passed by the Board of Health due to an outbreak of chicken pox and measles.

June 1922, Dr. G.T. Wasson is hired as Health Commissioner at a salary of \$375/month.

July 30, 1924 a resolution is passed to petition the State Department of Health to investigate the Galion City waste disposal plant, as requested by the Mayor of Galion and the Galion City Council President, due to sewage being discharged into Whetstone Creek creating a public health nuisance.

Dairy sanitation standards are created. *(1924 National Public Health Service Created document to assist in development of statewide milk sanitation program in Alabama)*

- 1920s** Maternal and Infancy Act enabled state health departments to employ nutritionists, and during the 1930s, the federal government developed food relief and food commodity distribution programs, including school feeding and nutrition education programs, and national food consumption surveys.
- 1922** The Crawford County Board of Health District Advisory Committee met to discuss merging the county, Bucyrus, and Galion health departments into one health department. Nothing materialized after the meeting.
- 1925** Ohio starts national reporting of communicable disease.
- 1930s** Federal food assistance starts (SNAP).
- 1939** The Crawford County Board of Health adopted local regulations requiring all dairies and distributors to adhere to the US Public Health Service Milk Ordinance. (Prior to the passage of dairy regulations, 25% of all disease outbreaks in the US were milk-borne. Regulations are credited to reducing that incidence to less than one percent.)
- 1947** On June 25, 1947 the Crawford County Board of Health passed a resolution declaring a quarantine on all dogs in Cranberry Township for a period of ninety (90) days due to a case of rabies in that township.
- 1953** Ohio adopts statewide food code.
Ohio Local Health Departments given authority to abate nuisances, 3707.01.
- 1955** National Polio Vaccine Effort (April).
- 1966** Medicare Takes Effect After the Medicare Act was signed in 1965, it went into effect, ensuring all Ohioans (and U.S.) residents 65 and over would have health insurance, regardless of income or medical history. The act led to the expansion of the nursing services in many LHDs, and also allowed for home care agencies to receive reimbursements. (*From Lorain County Health Department*)
- 1974** Federal WIC Program begins. WIC offices open in local health departments in following years.
- 1977** Ohio Minimum Guidelines for Sewage Systems Issued.
- 1977** Ohio adopted rules for school inspections (1953 given authority for unsanitary conditions on school property, ORC).
- 1978** Ohio requires vaccinations for school (July), ORC 3313.67.
- 1979** Thanks for vaccination efforts, Smallpox declared eradicated from the world.
- 1986** Ohio mandatory seat belt law went into effect. (May 1986) Ohio became the 17th state to require drivers to buckle up.
- 1987** Pool licensing, sanitation & safety authority given to Local Health Departments, ORC 119
- 1994** Back to Sleep Campaign Starts nationally, results in over 50% reduction in rate of SIDS

2002 The City of Bucyrus entered into contract with the Crawford County Health Department.

2005 Breastfeeding allowed in public

2006 SmokeFree Ohio passes

2009 Ohio passes booster seat law for children until age 8 or 4'9" tall

2015 Statewide Sewage Rules Adopted.

The Crawford County Board of Health District Advisory Council voted to change the agency name to Crawford County Public Health.

2019 Celebrate 100 Years of Public Health: Added 25 Years to the life expectancy.



What has Public Health achieved in our first century?

25

YEARS ADDED TO
AMERICAN
LIFE EXPECTANCY

90%

REDUCTION IN AMERICAN
DEATHS IN MOTOR VEHICLE
ACCIDENTS

50%

REDUCTION IN DEATHS
FROM SUDDEN INFANT
DEATH SYNDROME

ERADICATION OF SMALLPOX
VACCINATING AGAINST 18 DEADLY DISEASES
REDUCTION IN TOBACCO USE
IMPROVED FOOD SAFETY & SANITATION

Imagine what we can accomplish in our next century