

# 2023 Annual Report

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# About DCHD

With its beginnings back in 1937, the Davis County Health Department (DCHD) is the oldest established local public health department in Utah. The health department's staff strives to ensure quality public and environmental health and senior services in Davis County.

DCHD staff accomplishes this through a wide variety of services: Community Health, Communicable Disease/Epidemiology, Environmental Health, Family Health, Health Administration, Health Strategy, and Senior Services.

DCHD received national accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) on November 10, 2015. In 2022, PHAB recognized DCHD with reaccreditation.



# Letter from the Health Director



The mission of the Davis County Health Department (DCHD) is to “promote and protect the health and well-being of the Davis County community.” With this in mind, I am pleased to provide the 2023 Annual Report which highlights our team’s accomplishments and dedication throughout many diverse public health programs.

This year marked another busy year for our department. This report details important work that has been accomplished throughout our divisions. From the completion of the department’s comprehensive five-year community health assessment, to investigating a large Cryptosporidiosis outbreak, to overseeing the completion of an important groundwater study conducted in the northwest corner of the county, our team worked tirelessly to achieve our mission. We have included links to our division reports that feature detailed accomplishments and services.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our staff, Board of Health, and partners for their hard work and dedication to public health and the department. As you read this report, I hope you will gain insight into the breadth and depth of the department’s activities.

Sincerely,

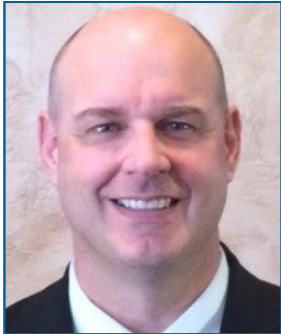


**BRIAN E. HATCH, MPH**  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

# Board of Health Members



Find more information about the Board of Health by [clicking here](#).



Brandon Hatch

**Chair**



Joy Petro

**Vice Chair**



Dr. Gary Alexander

**Immediate Vice  
Chair**



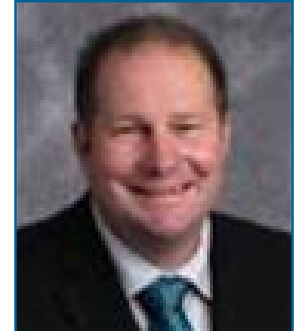
Lorene Kamalu

**Board Member**



Troy Wood

**Board Member**



Richard Swanson

**Board Member**



Dr. Ryan Stewart

**Board Member**



Dr. Colleen Taylor

**Board Member**



Brian Hatch

**Health Department  
Director**

# Vision, Mission, and Values

## Vision

Healthy Choices. Healthy People. Healthy Communities.

## Mission

Promote and protect the health and well-being of the Davis County community.

## Values

Quality Service  
Knowledgeable, Professional, and Friendly Employees  
Public Health Excellence  
Communication  
Collaboration and Partnership  
Health Equity





# Financial Statements

## Budgeted Fund 15: Expenditures

Personnel Expenditures	\$13,029,450.13
Operating Expenditures	\$6,798,369.10
Capital Expenditures	\$116,201.40
Indirect Expenditures	\$1,086,831.96
Transfer to Capital Fund	\$2,700,000.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$23,730,852.59</b>

## Budgeted Fund 15: Revenues

Fee Revenue	\$4,394,491.61
Contractual Revenue	\$12,181,959.71
Tax Revenue	\$6,230,407.24
Other Revenue	\$1,274,510.49
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$24,081,369.05</b>

# Vital Records

	Davis County	State of Utah
Births	3,278	46,349
Deaths	1,957	22,119

Source: Utah Department of Health and Human Services

# County Health Rankings Summary

**COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS SUMMARY 2023 DAVIS COUNTY**

**9 in 10** Residents in Good to Excellent Health

**6<sup>th</sup>** Healthiest in Utah

**Davis COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps  
Building a Culture of Health, One Step at a Time

For more info, visit [countyhealthrankings.org](http://countyhealthrankings.org).

**Areas of Strength**

- More physical activity & exercise opportunities
- More individuals with health insurance coverage
- Higher rates of educational attainment
- Less excessive drinking
- Fewer unemployed residents
- Fewer teen births
- Fewer preventable hospital stays
- Healthier food environment
- Fewer children living in poverty
- More even income distribution among households
- Fewer premature deaths & injury deaths
- Fewer sexually transmitted infections

**Areas to Explore and Improve**

- Adult obesity
- Long commutes alone & traffic volume
- Provider to patient ratios
- Membership associations
- Health disparities by race & ethnicity
- Gender pay gap

**Rankings**

When compared to 28 other ranked counties in Utah for health outcomes and health factors, Davis County is:

3rd	Clinical Care	6th	Quality of Life
3rd	Social & Economic Factors	6th	Health Behaviors
5th	Length of Life	24th	Physical Environment



# 2023 Year in Review



## Community Health Division

The Community Health Division coordinates programs that aim to improve the overall health of the Davis County community by reducing preventable causes of death and increasing quality of life. Staff members examine root causes of health issues to identify prevention strategies, also referred to as “upstream prevention.” Rather than focusing on a person’s individual behaviors, division staff consider broader factors, including the environments and experiences in which people are born, grow, live, and work.

One example of upstream prevention is the Davis County Youth Council, an evidence-based prevention model using peer-to-peer education. The youth council provides an opportunity for members to increase protective factors such as community attachment, interaction with prosocial peers, and recognition for positive behavior. Increasing protective factors can help buffer the risk of negative health outcomes now and in the future. In addition to positively affecting their own well-being, the youth determine yearly priorities for improving the well-being of youth in Davis County by reviewing data from a variety of sources. In 2023, the youth centered their efforts on mental health awareness and suicide prevention while increasing community involvement.

The division has four program areas that also engage in upstream prevention, public education, and continuous process improvement practices. The following sections highlight some of the important work staff accomplished in 2023.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

Through planning, training, and skills-based exercises, the Emergency Preparedness Program works to prepare DCHD staff to effectively respond to emergencies and hazards of any type. The program also partners with different agencies in Davis County and across the state of Utah to coordinate response plans and help residents become more prepared for emergencies.

# 2023 Year in Review



## Community Health Division

In 2023, division staff carefully documented and developed a 100+ page hardbound book, *Reflecting on COVID-19: Davis County*, capturing employee experiences and overall successes of the department's three-year pandemic response. The book showcases the multi-phase pandemic where staff used tried and true public health principles, provided countless hours of disease investigation, implemented an award-winning mass vaccination strategy, provided education to the public and other stakeholders, and maintained superb customer service to Davis County residents.

Staff also completed significant updates to the department's All-Hazards Plan, which included: incorporating new state laws regarding emergency response, updating staff roles and assignments during an emergency, adding new mental health resources, adding information for new partner agencies from the COVID-19 response, updating the department's Continuity of Operations Plan, and outlining updated coordination processes with partner agencies in the Northern Utah Healthcare Coalition.

### **Healthy Environments, Active Living (HEAL)**

The HEAL Program collaborates with partners to increase the capacity of communities to support and promote healthy living for all individuals. Data shows communities and agencies can work together to improve access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity, and to decrease health outcomes such as diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.

In 2023, program staff strengthened partnerships with local food pantries throughout the county to increase access to healthy and fresh food options. Through this partnership, pantries have now developed processes to help patrons choose foods that are best for their individual health conditions.

In recognition of physical activity and social connection being strong protective factors for mental well-being, staff aligned suicide prevention and physical activity programs to increase family and community connectedness.

# 2023 Year in Review



## Community Health Division

### **Injury Prevention**

Unintentional injury and suicide are leading causes of death for Davis County residents. The division's Injury Prevention Program increases opportunities for community connectedness and provides education and resources to decrease unintentional injury and suicide.

In 2023, division staff expanded the reach of the evidence-based statewide *Live On* suicide prevention campaign to 93,500 homes in the county, aiming to shift the culture around suicide and mental health.

Staff also collaborated with the department's Health Strategy Bureau to convene a workgroup to begin the development of a countywide plan to reduce risk and promote healing for residents after a suicide death occurs.

### **Tobacco Prevention and Control**

Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States. Further, tobacco and nicotine use contribute to two of the leading causes of death in Davis County: cancer and chronic lower respiratory disease. The overarching goals of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program are to prevent youth from accessing tobacco products, e-cigarette products, and other nicotine products, while helping individuals who use tobacco connect with quit resources.

In 2023, division staff oversaw the process to update the Davis County Board of Health Tobacco Retailer Regulation to align with multiple changes in Utah Code and to increase transparency about permit expectations with tobacco retailers.

# 2023 Year in Review



## Community Health Division

Staff also continued to support four community partners through the E-cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention grant program. These evidence-based programs address risk and protective factors associated with the use of e-cigarettes, marijuana, and other drugs.

You can find the entire 2023 Annual Report for the Community Health Division on DCHD's website by [clicking here](#).

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Division

This report summarizes all communicable diseases reported in Davis County, Utah, during 2023. It provides an overview of the burden and trends of infectious disease in the county and highlights important events. The Division of Communicable Disease and Epidemiology (CD/Epi) within the Davis County Health Department (DCHD) responded to several notable events during 2023. These are summarized below.

### **Continued Outbreak of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa***

In August 2022, DCHD was notified of a case of carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA) bacteria in an individual who resided at a health care facility. This was unusual because it was a rare carbapenemase-producing strain (Verona integron-mediated metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase [VIM]) that had never been reported in the US. It was ultimately part of a larger outbreak of 81 cases of VIM-CRPA across 18 states. Specific brands of artificial tear products have been identified as a common exposure in many VIM-CRPA cases.

CD/Epi collaborated with the Utah Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Centers for Disease Control Prevention (CDC) to help contain the outbreak and stop the spread of VIM-CRPA at the facility. This included screening patients to find additional cases (i.e. point prevalence surveys), reviewing infection control procedures, evaluating water infection risks, and submitting product samples for testing.

The outbreak continued into 2023 as additional cases were found in Davis County. Additional point prevalence surveys were conducted before declaring the outbreak over in July 2023. CD/Epi assisted with a total of six point prevalence surveys: two in 2022 and four in 2023. Despite the end of the outbreak, the facility continues to screen new patients upon admission for any drug-resistant organism, per their policy. Additionally, when patients are discharged to other facilities, the receiving facility is notified to keep patients in contact precautions to prohibit further transmission within the facility.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Division

### **Cryptosporidiosis Outbreak**

There was an outbreak of cryptosporidiosis in Utah that began during summer 2023. For context, during the last five years (2018-2022), there was an annual average of 174 cryptosporidiosis cases in Utah. In 2023 alone, there were 673 cases across the state.

In Davis County, the outbreak began mid-August and peaked during early September. Cases returned to baseline by mid-October. However, there were still more cryptosporidiosis cases than usual during the final three months of the year, even after the outbreak ended.

Of the 117 cryptosporidiosis cases in 2023 in Davis County, 99 (84.6%) occurred during the outbreak period. CD/Epi nurses and Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS) interviewed all cases to identify potential exposures, find additional unreported cases, explain treatment options, and educate on ways to prevent further disease transmission. No single point source was identified as the cause of the outbreak. However, the majority of cases were associated with recreational water facilities such as pools, splash pads, and water parks.

CD/Epi collaborated with the Davis County Health Department (DCHD) Division of Environmental Health when a case had an exposure at a permitted pool facility. The Division of Environmental Health worked closely with each of the pool operators to ensure that the pool was effectively treated before opening back up for public swimming. In total, there were 12 permitted pool facilities in Davis County that were impacted by the outbreak.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Division

### **Norovirus Outbreak**

CD/Epi responded to 2 norovirus outbreaks in 2023, each in a different healthcare facility. The first outbreak had a total of 54 cases and the second outbreak had 12 cases. CD/Epi provided guidance on infection control and prevention to the facility staff. In addition, CD/Epi conducted site visits at both locations in partnership with the Environmental Health Division. The facilities' kitchen, dining, and laundry areas were evaluated, along with advising on best practices for cleaning.

### **End of the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency**

The federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 ended on May 11, 2023. While CD/Epi had already begun to scale back certain aspects of its COVID-19 response during 2022 and 2023, the end of the Public Health Emergency represents an acknowledgement that COVID-19 is endemic and emergency response is no longer necessary. During 2023, CD/Epi discontinued the remaining parts of its COVID-19 response, which included:

- Case investigations;
- The COVID-19 data dashboard (COVID-19 data have been rolled in to the Respiratory Illness Report);
- Daily case counts for schools (both Davis School District and charter schools); and
- Dedicated phone lines and teams for reporting and following up at schools and community hotspots.

However, this does not mean that COVID-19 will no longer be a problem. COVID-19 is expected to continue spreading year-round and increase during the respiratory illness season in the winter months. It will still result in emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and deaths. Fortunately, effective treatments and vaccines are available to help prevent and contain the spread of COVID-19, along with a better understanding of the virus's characteristics.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Division

Despite these changes, CD/Epi continues to monitor COVID-19 trends and severity. CD/Epi also continues to help control and prevent outbreaks in long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes, skilled nursing, and assisted living facilities. This way, we can still help protect the health of vulnerable members of the community and their caregivers.

### **Clinical Services**

CD/Epi operates a clinic on the first floor of the Clearfield building, adjacent to the immunization clinic. Here, CD/Epi nurses attend to patients for screening, testing, treatment and education services related to sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and tuberculosis (TB). In addition, baseline testing for emergency medical services (EMS) personnel are provided.

In 2023, CD/Epi had 323 STI screening clinic appointments, 100 sexual partner contact appointments, 101 tuberculosis testing appointments, and 42 appointments for other communicable disease testing needs. In addition, 40 individuals completed all EMS bloodborne pathogen screening and training requirements.

### **Personal Responsibility Education Program Outreach**

Between the three outreach classes that CD/Epi staff conducted, there was a total of 695 students who participated. For the Making Proud Choices! (MPC!) and Sexual Health and Adolescent Risk Prevention Courses (SHARP), approximately 22% of participants indicated an increased intent to use condoms, and approximately 21% of participants indicated an increased intent to get regularly tested for STIs.

You can find the entire 2023 Annual Report for the Communicable Disease and Epidemiology Division on DCHD's website by [clicking here](#).



# 2023 Year in Review

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## Environmental Health Division

The mission of the Davis County Health Department is to promote and protect the health and well-being of the Davis County community. The Environmental Health Division carries out this mission by establishing regulations, conducting inspections, investigating complaints, training the workforce, collaborating with partners, and making educational outreach efforts.

While many of the Division's programs have existed for many years, the program priorities are dynamic and continue to evolve. These changes and shifts of importance are brought about by outbreaks, changing economics or politics, and new program development. National, regional, state, county, and city trends have also contributed to shifting program focus. However, the foundational priorities of the Division are always rooted in ensuring food is safe to eat, water is safe to drink, air is clean to breathe, and principles of sanitation and safety are followed.

This year, the Environmental Health Division not only accomplished its normal regulatory responsibilities, but also worked on many larger scale projects. Some of the more notable events or work that was accomplished during 2023 include:

- Providing education and proposing Regulation changes to the Davis County Board of Health. The Board supported the Division's recommendations this year by:
  - Voting to rescind the Electronic Cigarette Substance Regulation; and
  - Supporting the proposed changes to the Wastewater Regulation and voting to allow these changes to go out for a hearing and public comment.
- Working with SWCA Environmental as they completed a groundwater study. This study was done to provide data-based recommendations to the county, regarding future development impacts related to onsite wastewater systems.
- Surplussing much of our outdated environmental response equipment.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Environmental Health Division

- Issuing Permits of Decontamination for the first year after this permit was approved by the Board of Health in November of 2022.
- Providing outreach at many community events including the Water Fair for 5th graders and the Safe Kids Fair.
- Revamping the Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program. This included:
  - Overhauling the Davis County Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Ordinance, including the elimination of requirements of opacity or loaded-mode testing;
  - Partnering with Opus to provide new analyzers to all stations and implement a new Vehicle Information Database;
  - Working with Davis Technical College to create a new online training platform for I/M Inspectors; and
  - Taking over the operations for the Vehicle Emissions Technical Center to conduct hands-on Inspector training, conduct challenge or referee testing, and do remote audits of inspectors.
- Initiating a Diesel Restoration Program to allow owners of tampered diesel vehicles financial assistance to bring their vehicle back into emission compliance.
- Assisting schools and daycares with sampling of their drinking water taps for lead. All schools were required to sample all taps by the state legislature.
- Training water operators, pool operators, food handlers, and I/M station owners and inspectors throughout the year.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Environmental Health Division

- Conducting hundreds of investigations and responses, including:
  - Working with the EPA to decontaminate a home that was storing many containers of mercury and other chemicals;
  - Requiring actions to be taken by operators of public pools in relation to an outbreak of cryptosporidiosis; and
  - Posting signs at various water bodies to alert the public of the presence of harmful algal blooms.
- Carrying out routine duties including, but not limited to:
  - Permitting 2,311 entities;
  - Completing 3,166 inspections;
  - Investigating 530 complaints;
  - Issuing 452 notices, and
  - Analyzing 8,332 water samples.

You can find the entire 2023 Annual Report for the Environmental Health Division on DCHD's website by [clicking here](#).

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Family Health Division

The Family Health Division of the Davis County Health Department has demonstrated significant impacts in increasing performance and quality improvement, enhancing efficiency and effectiveness across its operations, and aligning its priorities with the broader strategic goals of the Davis County Health Department (DCHD). Through updated operating procedures, streamlined processes have led to increased productivity and reduced errors, ensuring a higher standard of service delivery.

By incorporating customer satisfaction outcomes through a focus on performance metrics, the division has effectively responded to the needs of the community. Enhanced communication and collaboration with other DCHD divisions have facilitated improved synergies in service delivery and resource utilization, fostering a more cohesive approach to public health initiatives.

### **Immunizations**

The Immunizations Bureau administered 15,225 vaccines, conducted 128 outreaches, and served 128 homebound individuals to ensure vaccination needs were met. Additionally, the division initiated the Adult High Risk Vaccine Initiative (AHB) program and completed two Project Management/Quality Improvement (PM/QI) projects, earning the department QI award for their work on vaccine inventory and management.

### **Maternal & Child Health (MCH)**

The bureau launched the Preschool Development Grant (PDG) program to serve individuals in the county not eligible for Targeted Case Management (TCM) services. Nursing staff administered 1,509 developmental screenings, educated 455 families about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and screened 660 women for postpartum depression. Most notably MCH staff helped facilitate 2,278 different resources and referrals to clients through program visits.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Family Health Division

### **Women, Infants & Children (WIC)**

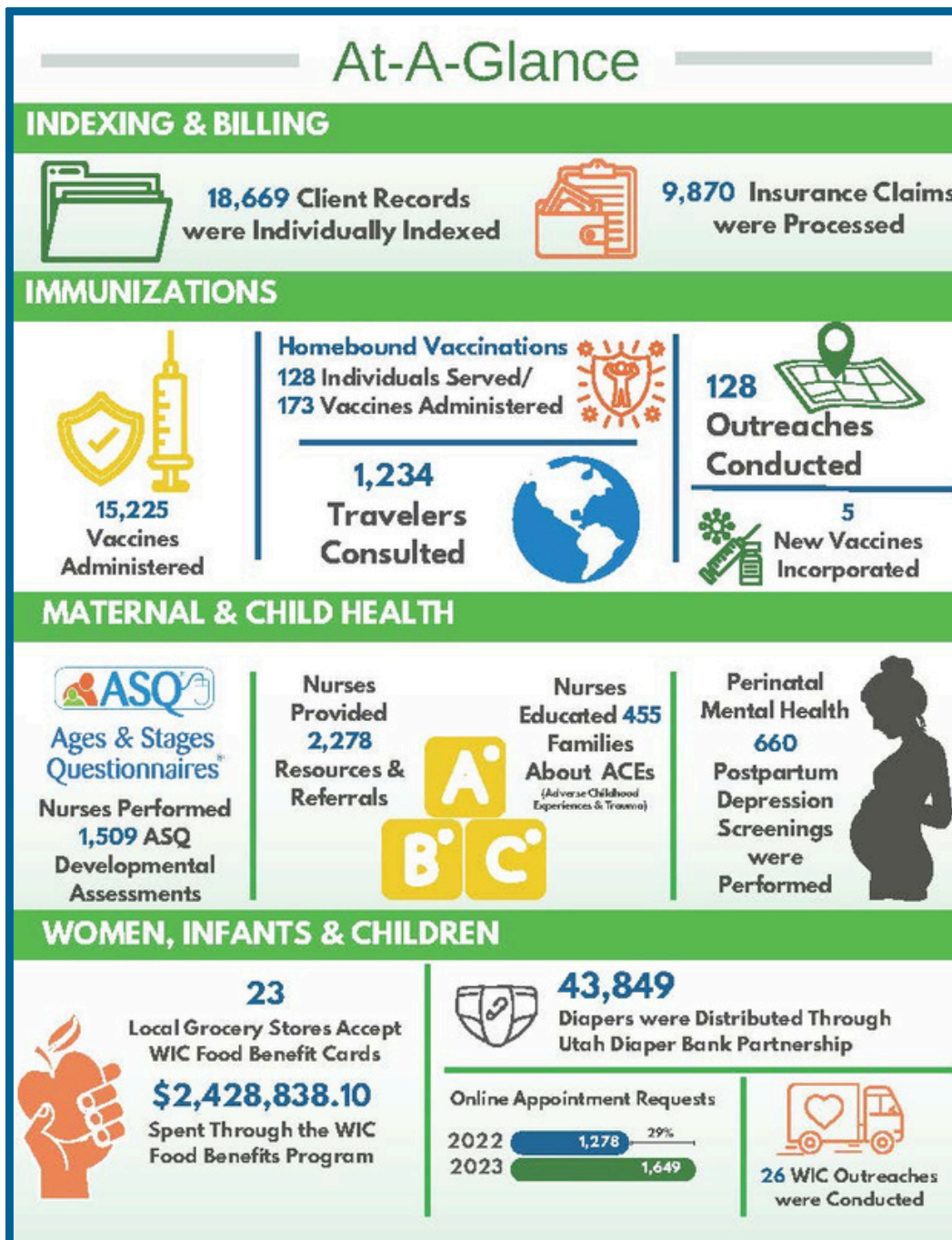
The WIC Bureau experienced growth, serving 3,692 participants in 2023. WIC achieved significant success in promoting breastfeeding, with an increase from 57% to 65% of infants breastfeeding at six months and from 59% to 66% at one year. WIC also expanded its reach by partnering with Head Start and a Davis School District (DSD) school in Centerville and serving 281 families in that location.

Additionally, the division distributed 43,849 diapers to families in need through its programs. Overall, the Family Health Division's concerted efforts to align its goals and objectives with the department's strategic plan, Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)/Community Health Assessment (CHA), and performance management/quality improvement initiatives have resulted in tangible successes in serving the residents of Davis County.

You can find the entire 2023 Annual Report for the Family Health Division on DCHD's website by [clicking here](#).

# 2023 Year in Review

## Family Health Division



# 2023 Year in Review

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## Senior Services Division

The Senior Services Division is the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for Davis County. The Division provides myriad services such as providing socialization opportunities, preventing malnutrition, organizing services for older adults to age in place, as well as training the workforce, collaborating with partners, making educational outreach efforts, and advocating for the rights of older adults. These services align with the department's mission of promoting and protecting the health and well-being of the Davis County community.

In addition to aligning with the department's mission, Senior Services continues to find new and innovative ways to prioritize older adults, as seen in our Four Year Plan. The plan acts as a strategic roadmap to ensure older adults are prioritized when developing programs, funding initiatives, and creating policy.

This year, the Senior Services Division not only accomplished its responsibilities as a AAA, but also worked on many larger scale projects. Some of the more notable events or work that was accomplished during 2023 include:

- Expanding the Ombudsman program to meet the needs of Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing facility residents by doubling the number of volunteers and assigning an additional staff member to assist with clerical work.
- Hosting Health Resource Fairs at our Senior Activity Centers, with over 25 community agencies participating.
- Partnering with Segue Expressive Therapies to provide monthly music therapy sessions within our Senior Activity Centers.
- Hosting three combined Senior Activity Center events to enhance socialization of older adults.

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Senior Services Division

- Conducting a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis to identify the strengths of the Division during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as areas where there is room for improvement. Key recommendations from the analysis include:
  - Strengthening existing community partnerships and seeking out new ones;
  - Spreading awareness of programs and community resources through outreach and marketing; and
  - Striving to make learning technology engaging.
- Partnering with the University of Utah to conduct a malnutrition study, with the University of Utah providing a registered dietitian to conduct nutritional screenings and counseling.
- Developing a partnership with Davis School District to provide additional education and training to our Division drivers.
- Partnering with Davis Behavioral Health to provide a mental health professional who visits a Senior Activity Center every month.
- Partnering with Davis Arts Council to provide entertainment for older adults within the three Senior Activity Centers.
- Funding was received from USAging to provide vaccination clinics to older adults.
- Hosting a volunteer recognition event, where 115 volunteers were thanked for providing more than 37,000 hours of service.
- Redesigning the Division website to make it more accessible and up-to-date.



# 2023 Year in Review

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## Senior Services Division

- Participating in the Food Connection Program, providing food donated by restaurants to Senior Activity Center clients.
- Providing routine services, including:
  - 25,206 congregate meals;
  - 92,841 home-delivered meals;
  - 4,293 medical transportation rides;
  - 27 health classes;
  - 320 Ombudsman investigations;
  - 228 In-Home clients served; and
  - 22 caregiver classes.

All the important work conducted by the Senior Services Division could not be completed without the collaboration of community leaders, businesses, hard working staff, partners, and Davis County residents. Thanks to everyone!

You can find the entire 2023 Annual Report for the Senior Services Division on DCHD's website by [\*\*clicking here\*\*](#).

# 2023 Year in Review

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## Other Reports of Interest

### **2023 Davis4Health Community Health Assessment**

In conjunction with Davis County's local community health improvement collaborative, Davis4Health, Davis County Health Department (DCHD) conducted a comprehensive community health assessment. In this third iteration of the Davis4Health Community Health Assessment (CHA), new local data was collected, priority health and human services issues were explored, and community needs and assets were assessed with an equity lens. These efforts have provided a deeper understanding of community strengths, resources, and areas for improvement in terms of people, place, and opportunity in Davis County, Utah. To read more, [click here](#).

### **2023 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Progress Report**

The purpose of the 2023 annual progress report is to document progress toward county health priorities included in the 2019-2023 Davis4Health Community Health Improvement Plan, also known as the CHIP. The three priorities are:

1. Suicide
2. Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma
3. Opioids

Partners work together to implement the community health improvement plan. Objectives and outcomes are reviewed each year to determine if any revisions or updates are needed. Progress is monitored throughout implementation and this annual report is prepared to document partners' cumulative effort. To read more, [click here](#).

### **DCHD Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027**

The 2023-2027 DCHD Strategic Plan carries over a number of the 2018-2022 strategies and goals, along with an enhanced emphasis on equity, to provide valuable direction and guidance for all employees and stakeholders as we work towards moving the organization forward in the coming years. To read more, [click here](#).

# Contact Us



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