

STRONGER THAN EVER



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Message from the Health Commissioner:

Stronger than ever and more determined.

As another year winds down and we reflect, 2022 was a year of continued resiliency and determination for all of public health. We have been returning staff to normal duties, streamlining operations, improving infrastructure and investigating new ways to improve the community's health.

The 2022 Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Population Health Vital Statistics Brief: COVID-19 Pandemic Summary 2022 is available on our Summit County Public Health website. As you move through these reports, you will see that Summit County's collective health has changed over the past three years. Some outcomes have improved, while others have declined. In some cases, it is still too early to tell whether any progress has been made. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its related physiological and psychological effects can be seen throughout these documents.

It was a dynamic year for public health. We enhanced our communicable disease unit by adding staff to facilitate an immediate response to both the emerging diseases as well as the familiar ones. This unit has grown to include outreach and education to community-based agencies and health care for infectious disease protocols.

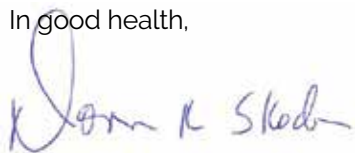
The Summit County Public Health Informatics Department developed a new web portal for the Water Quality program in Summit County. The user-friendly portal allows the public to easily search for all well and septic records within the county with a property address or parcel ID. The public can also view and download well and septic records, including information on well construction, septic system type, and any past inspections. It's a valuable resource for property owners, real estate professionals, and those interested in the well and septic records of properties in Summit County.

Looking forward to a productive and healthy 2023

Our focus moving forward will be to continue to observe all guidelines provided by the State of Ohio to respond to any public health issue, while continuing to maintain fiscal stability and keep an emphasis on workforce development and retention. In this report, we highlight some of the activities, accomplishments and challenges from 2022.

As always, let me express my sincere gratitude for all of the support from the Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro's office, the Board of Health, our local cities, townships and villages, and residents of Summit County as we recover and move forward. We are simply grateful!

In good health,



Donna R. Skoda, MS, RDN, LDN
Health Commissioner

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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

2022 Administrative Services Highlights

Fiscal

- Achieved a clean audit for 2021.
- Prepared for Summit County's transition to new accounting software.

Human Resources

- Technologically streamlined the new hire onboarding process for a better employee experience, along with improving the onboarding/welcoming process for supervisors.
- Implemented a supplementary applicant tracking system that targets over 25 job boards which led to an additional 740 candidates applying to 70 postings since March 2022.
- Revised the Employee Performance Management Cycle based on direct employee feedback through internal focus groups.
- Completed a salary scale review based on multiple outside data sources.

Informatics

- Designed, developed, implemented and trained Summit County Public Health (SCPH) staff on a new agency contracts workflow and database module.
- Designed, developed and implemented a web portal that allows the public to access Water Quality program files from the SCPH website.
- Working with the Information Technology program, designed, developed and managed the SCPH Mpox communicable disease and vaccine software systems.
- Worked with Environmental Health management to develop Google tools to assist in calculating the annual Cost Methodology of the Food and Pool programs resulting in reduced staff time required to calculate these costs manually.
- Worked with Nurse Family Partnership program management to develop a client database/tracking system.
- Designed, developed and implemented the COVID-19 long-term care facility Google reporting system for the Epidemiology unit.

- Worked with the Fiscal Officer to create an electronic accounts payable stamp in Adobe. Fiscal Department staff was trained on it's use.
- Met with division management in preparation for the County Munis transition and began documenting MYSCHD by creating data flow diagrams, report directories, and report dataset.

Information Technology

- Implemented 2-factor authentication for Google accounts across the agency to improve security.
- Worked with the Informatics program to develop and manage the Mpox waitlist and vaccine systems.
- Implemented SSLVPN connectivity for remote work.
- Upgraded AV equipment in 8 meeting rooms.
- Performed approximately 60 PC upgrades based upon replacement schedule.
- Processed 1,700 IT Help Desk support tickets.
- Upgraded the Food Service program's software HealthSpace to version 11 on 60+ PCs.

Marketing and Public Information

- Increased SCPH social media presence for multiple agency programs and expanded to new platforms.
- Established standardized marketing request submissions and tracking workflow through internal ticketing process.
- Streamlined the facilitation of external requests for SCPH presence at community events.
- Absorbed the management of the front desk reception position into the Marketing and Public Information program and hired a new employee to fill the role.
- Reinstated the monthly employee newsletter in March 2022.
- In 2022, 294 Marketing Tickets were assigned and completed.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (Continued)

Epidemiology and Biostatistics

- Completed the 2022 Community Health Assessment.
- Developed an Assaults-Related Deaths and Emergency Room Visits Data Brief.
- Created an updated Drug Overdose Data Brief.
- Created an updated Suicide Data Brief.
- Worked with the Informatics program to develop a streamlined electronic COVID-19 and Influenza reporting processes for long-term care facilities and schools.
- Redesigned and updated the following data dashboards:
 - Communicable Disease Dashboard
 - Housing
 - Mortality
 - Alcohol Related Emergency Department Visits
 - Drug Overdose Local and Statewide

Emergency Preparedness

- Made strategic investments into public health and jurisdictional preparedness and response infrastructures including the remodeling of the Department Operations Center (DOC) and the procurement of trailers, generators, signage, traffic management supplies, etc. Infrastructure will be used to augment emergency public health operations and mutually support county, regional, and state health and safety needs through mutual aid and assistance requests. Infrastructure purchased was intended to be applicable when responding to a variety of hazards supporting both public health and public safety.

- Actively participated in the COVID-19 and Mpox response. Responsibilities of the program included incident command, clinic management and staffing of testing and vaccine initiatives, logistics, and PPE distribution.
- Increased the resiliency of emergency data and communication capabilities through the procurement of additional rugged hot spots to augment communication and data needs in the field.
- Revised the SCPH Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) which outlines the present operational environment of SCPH post COVID-19 operations. In addition, emphasis has been placed on Information Technology (IT) resilience and preparedness through enhanced and continual planning towards IT Disaster Recovery.
- Cyber Security is a major theme for healthcare preparedness and resiliency within the State of Ohio. Within 2022; the State of Ohio and the Northeast Central Ohio Region conducted trainings, workshops and seminars to promote cyber security preparedness to ensure agencies and organizations understand current threats within the field and are taking appropriate measures to prepare their organizations to respond to current threats targeting healthcare.
- Radiological Preparedness is a primary theme for the Ohio Department of Health: Bureau of Health Preparedness. A workgroup which includes SCPH met throughout 2022 to increase whole community planning around this complex hazard. Activities of this workgroup will expand into 2023 focusing on Community Reception Center and Population Monitoring Operations.



Opiate Abatement

- Continued to provide project management for the Opiate Abatement Advisory Council (OAAC) to facilitate funding distribution obtained through the opiate settlement. Funding distributed to date includes project management, discretionary and non-discretionary funding totaling over \$7.3 million.
- 2022 projects include:
 - › Creation of advisory council website.
 - › Coordination with county consultants to select a countywide alcohol and drug data sharing platform.
 - › Create and facilitate an RFP for the purpose of assessing, planning and implementing trauma informed care across multiple public systems.
 - › Creation of community engagement and funding evaluation meetings.

Harm Reduction

Summit Safe Services

- 4,852 client interactions.
- 485,200 syringes distributed.
- 166,715 syringes collected for safe disposal.
- 1,051 overdose reversals reported with naloxone provided by the Summit Safe Services program.
- Implemented onsite HIV and Hepatitis-C testing in November 2022.
- Implemented a fentanyl test strip mail order program.
- Increased Summit Safe Services clinics from 1 to 2 days per week at our Arlington Plaza location.

Naloxone Distribution

Project DAWN

- Implemented targeted mail order distribution.
- Started partnerships with local businesses to install naloxone boxes in high overdose areas.
- Created an electronic process, approved by the Ohio Pharmacy Board for naloxone distribution that will allow for mass distribution of naloxone cabinets in the community with reduced staff effort.
- Distributed 6,934 boxes of naloxone in Summit County.
- Created a Recovery Friendly Workplace Program for Summit County.



CLINICAL HEALTH

2022 Clinical Health Highlights

Clinical Services

- Children with medical handicap case management caseload: 1,506 individuals.
- Reproductive Health and Wellness Program client visits: 638
- Opened client self-service online scheduling for reproductive health visits.
- General clinic visits: 3,031
- MyChart access was made available for SCPH clients in 2022.
- Non-COVID-19 vaccinations given: 2,248

Dental Health Services

- The SCPH Dental Clinic completed 2,088 visits in 2022, of which 773 were new clients.

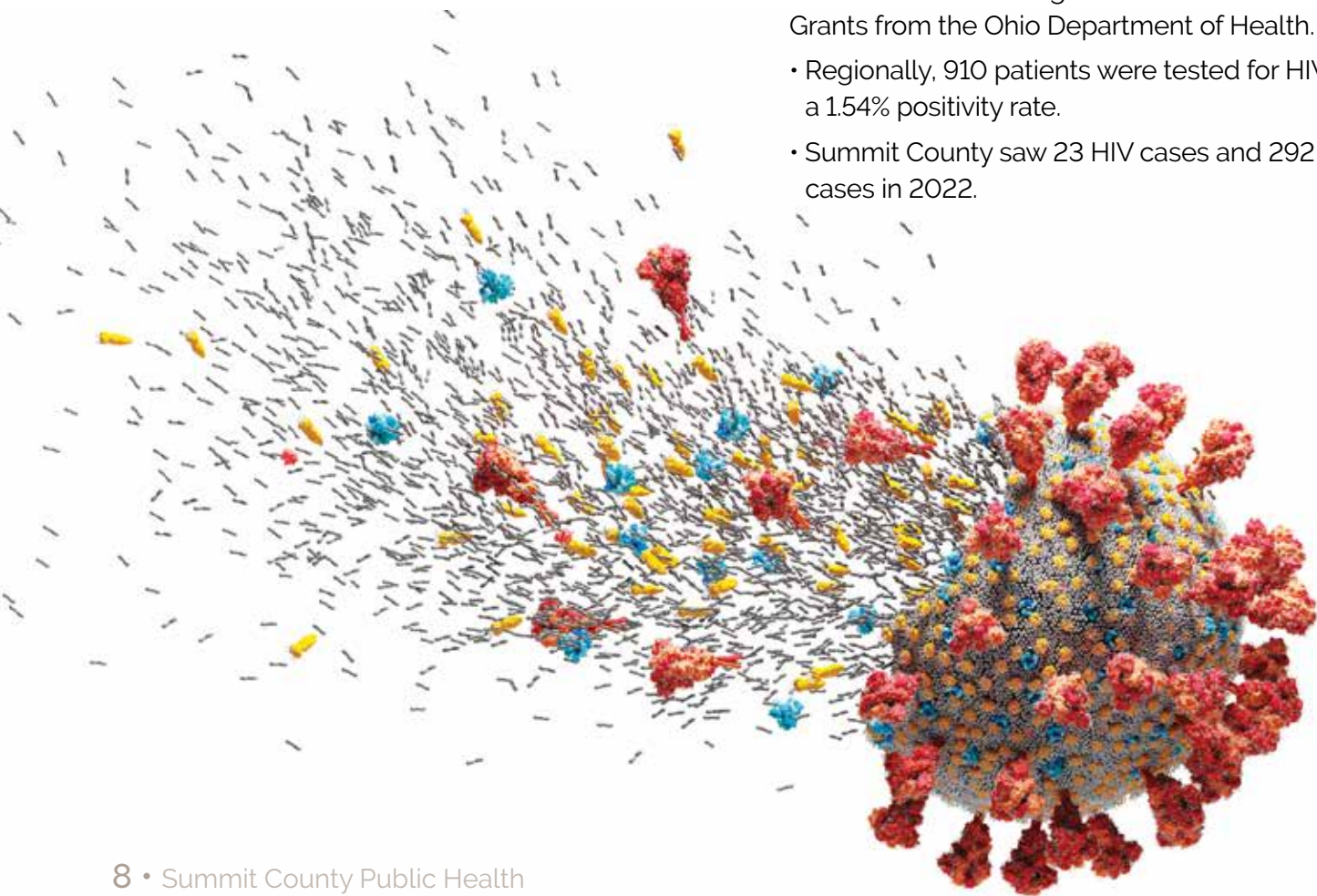
Communicable Disease

2022 was an interesting year for diseases. SCPH continued with COVID-19 response initiatives which included communicable disease investigation, contact tracing, outbreak investigation, testing and test kit distribution, vaccine distribution, public awareness and more. The beginning of the year brought a spike in COVID-19 case numbers due to the spread of the Omicron variant that began circulating in December 2021. As that decreased, Mpox (Monkeypox) started on an uphill trajectory. As Mpox started to decrease, the "tridemic" was upon us without much warning. Influenza, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and COVID-19 were causing case numbers to soar with increased hospitalizations. All three of these illnesses are caused by viruses that infect the respiratory tract, are contagious and can spread quickly through contact with respiratory droplets from an infected person, and lead to similar symptoms and therefore it was challenging to tell them apart.

Grant Funded Activities

SCPH receives funding for the HIV and STI Regional Grants from the Ohio Department of Health.

- Regionally, 910 patients were tested for HIV with a 1.54% positivity rate.
- Summit County saw 23 HIV cases and 292 syphilis cases in 2022.



Communicable Disease (Continued)

COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccines

- Total doses administered: 7,893
- Homebound patients: 429
- Initiated series (1st doses): 633

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

- Drive-thru initiatives: 16
- Offsite/community initiatives: 33
- Walk-in clinics: 193

COVID-19 Testing

- SARS-CoV-2 PCR tests administered on-site (Cepheid): 251

Non-COVID-19 Disease Investigation

- 5,433 disease reports were investigated.
- 1,029 positive cases identified.
- 41 outbreaks documented.
- 410 Mpox vaccines administered.
- 9 Mpox vaccine drive-thru initiatives.
- 19 Mpox exposure/high risk vaccination clinics.



FAMILY HEALTH

2022 Family Health Highlights

Maternal and Child Health

- Increased the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) caseload by 667 participants from June to November 2022.
- Established an Outreach committee in WIC to improve community partnerships.
- Completed 701 home visits within the Nurse-Family Partnership Program.
- SCPH was awarded and launched the Healthy Beginnings at Home Project in collaboration with the United Way and the City of Akron, to provide housing stabilization services and support to 30 pregnant women in Summit County.
- In collaboration with Summit County Department of Job and Family Services, served 700 TANF-eligible Summit County families with diapers and wipes through community diaper distributions.

Social Determinants of Health

- Increased access to free and inclusive play opportunities through the refurbishment of Jewett Park (Middlebury Neighborhood).
- Collaborated with the City of Barberton and other key stakeholders to draft the Barberton Active Transportation Plan which provides a foundation for investment and improvements to support a multimodal transportation network that balances the needs of all users and assists in designing a healthier city.
- Increased access to and consumption of fresh produce through the development and implementation of the Farm2Pantry Pilot Program which links community gardens to local food pantries.
- SCPH was awarded a pilot project from the Ohio Department of Health to address community conditions that impact health and improve the lives within Ohio Health Improvement Zones. (The Ohio Health Improvement Zones are neighborhoods dealing with socioeconomic and demographic factors that affect the resilience of individuals and communities).
- Completed 63 Tobacco-21 merchant compliance checks and 74 tobacco store audits.





- Coordinated with Akron STEM High School to implement a Problem Based Learning Project to increase youth awareness of the My Life My Quit program.
- Collaborated with the Cleveland Clinic to present the Vaping Connected Career Rounds which reached over 1,500 students.
- Implemented an organizational self-assessment to better understand SCPH's strengths and areas of improvement to drive health equity.
- Collaborated with the United Way to extend the homeless hotline hours to increase access to housing resources.

Senior and Adult Services

- SCPH Senior and Adult Services programing was highlighted at the following national, state and local conferences:
 - The Benjamin Rose Annual Caregiver Conference
 - The Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging Annual Conference
 - The Public Health Opportunities and Challenges of Dementia National Conference

- Senior and Adult Services completed the following community trainings in 2022:
 - Gatekeeper Trainings: 20
 - Dementia Friends Living Alone: 87
 - Dementia Friends Intellectual Developmental Disabilities: 206
 - Dementia Friends Intellectual Developmental Champions: 16
 - Behavioral Interventions for Caregiver: 16
 - Brain Health Basics: 55
- In partnership with the Hoarding Task Force, 218 social workers, counselors, nurses, sanitarians, and other health care and social service representatives attended Hoarding 101, "Training Interventions in the Management of Hoarding Disorder: A Harm Reduction Approach".
- Attended 13 senior outreach events.
- Provided education and resources to 1,325 participants.
- Received 141 Gatekeeper referrals. This is a 68% increase compared to 2021 (96 referrals).

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2022 Environmental Health Highlights

Air Quality

- Created an online Open Burning training video for local fire departments which was shared with 64 fire departments in Summit, Portage and Medina counties.
- Created a general air quality training video for new staff.
- Provided 146 gift cards for battery operated and environmentally-friendly lawn mowers to residents to replace gas powered lawn mowers in order to reduce the amount of emission pollutants released into the atmosphere in Summit, Portage and Medina Counties.
- Investigated 79 open burning/fugitive dust complaints and 32 open burning/fugitive dust inspections.

Air Quality Permitting

- Completed 227 site visits.
- Reviewed 1,006 compliance reports.
- 20 smoke stacks tested and inspected.
- 211 permits processed.
- 26 high priority facility inspections completed.
- 21 notice of violations sent.

Solid Waste

- Updated the tracking mechanism for solid waste facility and scrap tire inspections.
- Performed 382 inspections and responded to 324 record requests.
- Successfully abated and closed 39 solid waste open/illegal dumping complaints.
- Presented Summit County Public Health's solid waste programs to the Ohio EPA's Health Department Advisory Panel.
- Performed 207 asbestos inspections, 205 right to know inspections, 179 landfill inspections, 20 compost facility inspections and 182 scrap tire inspections.





Food Safety and Recreation

- A Google platform was used to standardize training programs for food, pools, campgrounds, beaches, etc.
- Distributed COVID-19 test kits to food service operations and retail food establishments.
- Community outreach food safety presentations were given to University of Akron, Kenmore-Garfield School, and Hillcrest Foods Podcast.
- Received and responded to 457 food facility complaints.
- Performed 109 food plan reviews.
- 262 pool licenses processed.
- Issued 3,230 food facility licenses.

Neighborhood Health and Healthy Homes

- Implemented new GIS systems for mosquito sprayers resulting in more efficient applications and more accurate product usage data.
- Developed new standardized lead education documents for distribution during investigations.
- Developed new Healthy Homes education and referral materials that were distributed to over 200 individuals.
- Collaborated with Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority and the Community Development Corporation, The Well, to abate lead in their properties.

- Implemented process to notify potential homebuyers if a home has Lead Hazard Control Orders issued to the current property owner.
- 298 housing complaints received and investigated.
- 22 homes completed for lead abatement under the HUD grant.
- Animal bite reports: 928 total, 556 closed and 372 still awaiting closure.
- 28 mosquito complaints received and investigated.

Water Quality

- Received 363 complaints, 267 have been abated and 8 have been referred to legal for escalated enforcement.
- Increased community education through the addition of informational videos to our webpage and providing in-person presentations to several local community groups including realtors, high school students, and homeowners associations.
- Successfully coordinated with the newly created Surface Water Management District to continue outfall and screening services for communities in the District.
- Issued 250 private water system permits, 424 sewage treatment system permits and 14,869 operation permits.
- Screened 1,435 storm water outfalls.
- Answered 3,800 public records requests.

SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH IN MEDIA & ONLINE

January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

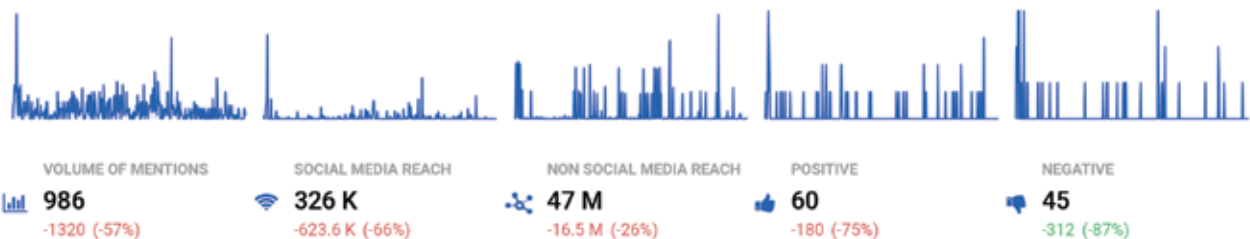
Summit County Public Health utilizes an automated online public relations monitoring service to continuously monitor mentions of SCPH in the news, online and across social media. Our PR monitoring service captured a total of 985 mentions of Summit County Public Health online in the year of 2022. This is a 57% decrease from the year 2021.

Here is a summary of mentions and analysis for 2022:

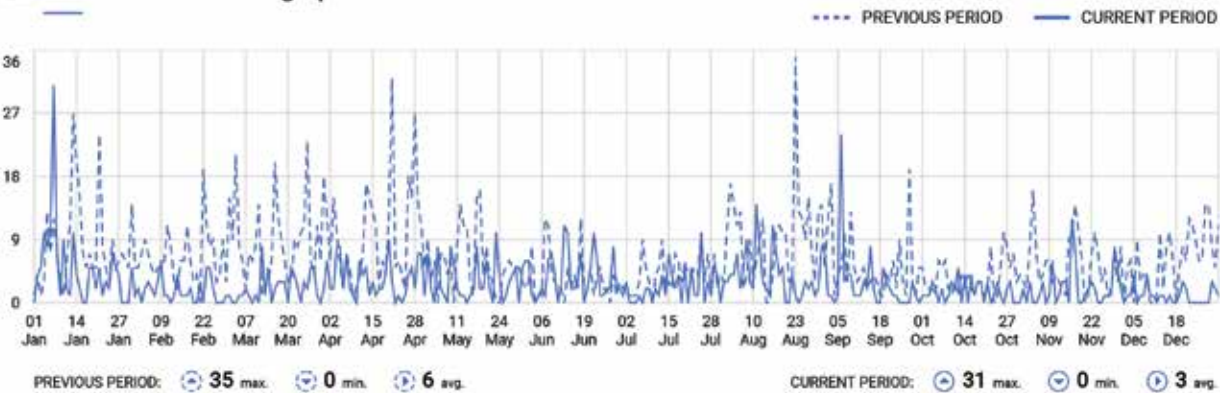
- 985 total mentions
- Estimated 326K impressions across social media
- 760 news articles mentioning SCPH

Most active news sites mentioning SCPH included: twitter.com, beaconjournal.com, news.yahoo.com, ideastream.org, yahoo.com, spectrumnews1.com, news5cleveland.com, youtube.com, wkyc.com, and wksu.org. Virtually all news articles and mentions of SCPH are related to one or more topics associated with coronavirus and/or COVID-19, some articles referred to Mpox or flu.

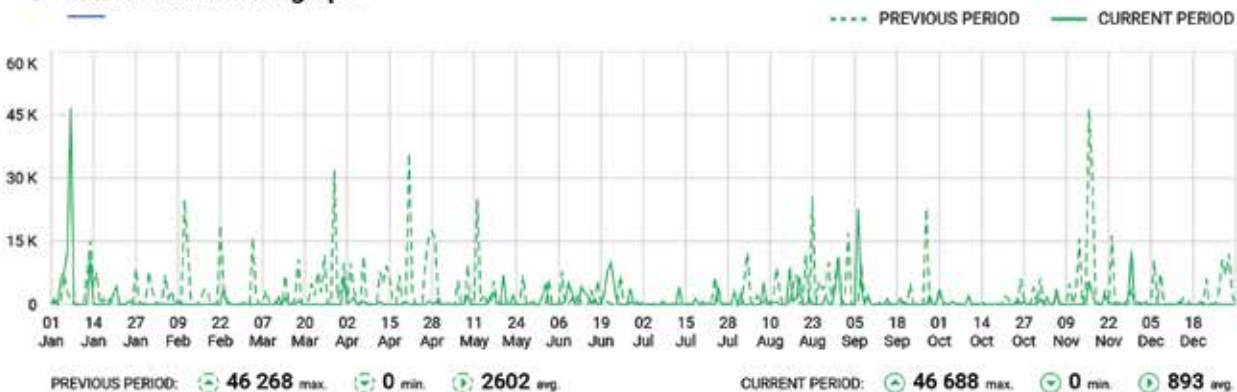
Summary of mentions



Volume of mentions graph



Social media reach graph



FISCAL STATEMENT

Statement of cash receipts, cash disbursement and changes in fund cash balances. All funds through December 2022.

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Total
CASH RECEIPTS			
Local Taxation	3,230,675	0	3,230,675
State Subsidy	786,152	0	786,152
Environmental Health Fees	2,278,263	200,000	2,478,263
Vital Statistics	595,149	0	595,149
Personal Health Services	530,618	9,699	540,317
Miscellaneous	250,954	14,590	265,544
Federal Funds Reimbursement	59,768	10,556,590	10,616,358
Local Contracts (Including Akron)	4,181,632	680,218	4,861,850
State Fees	1,008,798	0	1,008,798
Rental of Property	98,120	0	98,120
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	13,020,129	11,461,097	24,481,226
CASH DISBURSEMENTS			
Salaries	5,160,993	4,664,914	9,825,907
PERS/Workers Comp/Medicare	774,573	717,009	1,491,582
Health Benefits	947,375	821,333	1,768,708
Travel	60,911	34,265	95,176
Supplies	442,521	807,785	1,250,306
Contracts-Services/Repairs	1,451,275	3,681,512	5,132,787
Building Rental	37,694	156,224	193,918
Advertising and Printing	21,663	191,466	213,129
Other Expenses	137,651	537,607	675,258
Equipment	459,302	365,953	825,255
Remittance to State	952,818	0	952,818
TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS	10,446,776	11,978,068	22,424,844
RECEIPTS LESS DISBURSEMENTS	2,573,353	(516,971)	2,056,382
Transfers/Advances-In	(2,421,260)	(2,454,746)	(4,876,006)
Transfers/Advances-Out	2,068,377	2,807,629	4,876,006
Reserve for Encumbrances	14,317,177	5,838,951	20,156,128
FUND BALANCE	17,243,413	4,969,097	22,212,510

2022 Vital Statistics

- 29,903 Birth certificates issued
- 33,385 Death certificates issued
- 6,579 Births registered
- 7,336 Deaths registered
- 5,641 Burial/transit permits issued

Non-Discrimination

Summit County Public Health (SCPH) complies with all applicable State and Federal anti-discrimination laws and does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their membership in a protected class.

We provide free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information. We provide free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages.

If you believe that SCPH has failed to provide these services or discriminated against you based on your membership in a protected class, you can file a grievance by contacting the ADA/EEO Officer at: 1867 W. Market St., Akron OH 44313.

More information on filing a grievance is located on our website at www.scph.org.



OUR MISSION

Protect and promote the health
of the entire community through programs
and activities designed to address the safety, health
and well-being of the people who live in Summit County.
The Health Department seeks to create a healthful
environment and ensure the accessibility
of health services to all.

