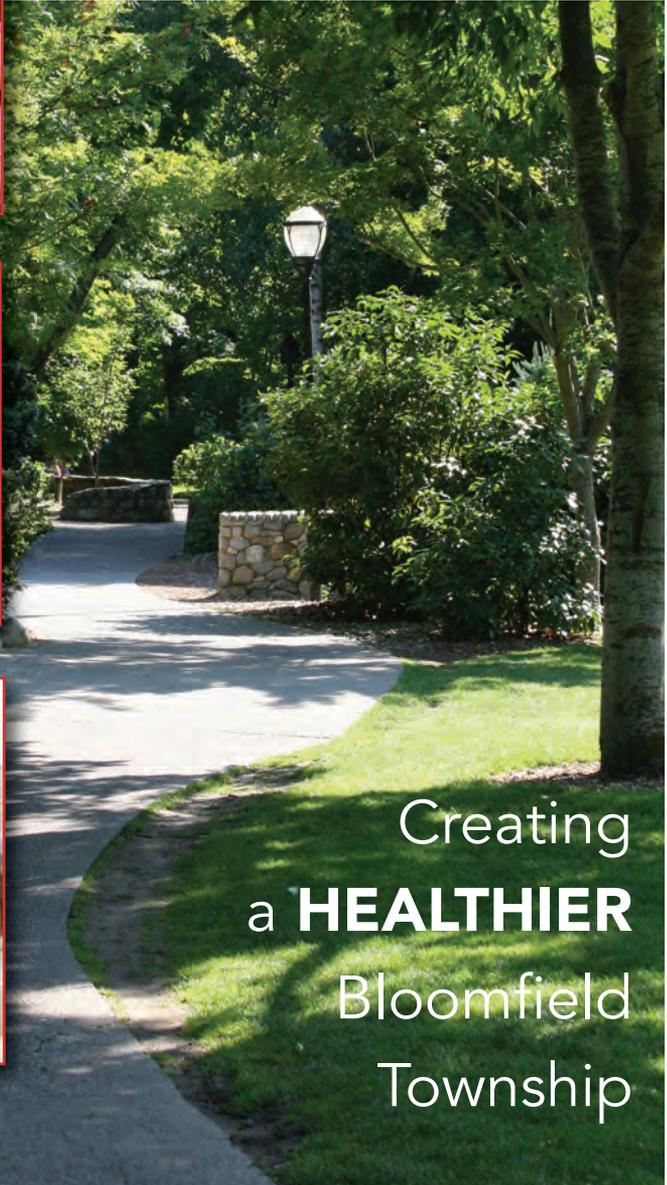


Bloomfield Department
of Health & Human Services

2011 Annual Report



Creating
a **HEALTHIER**
Bloomfield
Township

2011 Annual Report

Our Vision

*Creating healthy
communities by
promoting healthy
lifestyles, protecting
the environment, and
preventing disease.*

1 Municipal Plaza, Room 111
Bloomfield, NJ 07003
Main #: 973-680-4024
Main Fax: 973-680-4825
health@bloomfieldtwpnj.com
www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health

Animal Control, Animal Shelter
973-748-0194 or 973-680-4024

Environmental Services, Inspections
973-680-4024

Health Education
973-680-4183

Human Services
973-680-4017

Public Health Nursing
973-680-4058

Vital Statistics
973-680-4024



Our Mission

To prevent disease and promote physical and mental well-being through policy development, disease detection, prevention, education, and enforcement; and to do so in a culturally competent manner that ensures the highest quality of life for the citizens we serve.

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Dear Residents,

The Bloomfield Board of Health is pleased to present the 2011 Bloomfield Department of Health & Human Services annual report. The goal of this report is to inform all of our residents and public health partners of the multifaceted activities conducted during the year. Please review the report to better understand some of our community's important emerging health issues.

The Board is committed to providing services and programs consistent with the needs of our residents and with our mission to ensure the highest quality of public health throughout our community. We encourage your comments and suggestions on our efforts to improve access to important health information, including our web page, www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health, WBMA (Comcast channel 35, Fios Channel 30), our local newspapers, and our official Facebook page, Bloomfield Animal Shelter/John A. Bukowski Shelter for Animals" (URL: <http://on.fb.me/H2XtMn>).

We hope you find this report to be of interest and value.

Sincerely,
2011 Bloomfield Board of Health
James McLaughlin, President
Kathleen DeMarino, Vice President
Joel Elkins, Member
Stephanie Smith, Member
Martha Felix, Member
Councilwoman Peggy O'Boyle Dunigan, Board Liaison



REVENUE

- Animal Control - \$75,959
- Environmental - \$64,352.50
- Human Services - \$867.00
- Nursing Division - \$14,963.08
- Vital Statistics - \$30,822
- Miscellaneous - \$317.45

Total 2011 Revenue: \$187,281.03



KAREN LORE
M.S.W., L.C.S.W., D.C.S.W.
Acting
Department Director

Karen has extensive training in disaster and emergency response through the NJ Division of Mental Health Services, Disaster and Terrorism Branch. Her clinical trauma training includes critical incident stress debriefings and psychological first aid.

Karen has been with the department since 1988. Prior to becoming the department's acting director, she directed Social Work Services and supervised Human Services. Her devoted community work led her to form Bloomfield's Neighbor to Neighbor Network.

She holds a master's in social work, and is a licensed clinical social worker with diplomate status in advanced clinical practice. She belongs to the National Association of Social Workers.



PAULA PEIKES
M.S.W., L.C.S.W.
Human Services
Supervisor

Paula oversees the Human Services Division. When she began with Bloomfield in 2000, she was the volunteer coordinator working to expand the Neighbor to Neighbor Network, which supports volunteer services for homebound and/or disabled people, families with limited financial resources, and homeless animals. She was instrumental in filing for NTNN's 501(c)3 status and currently oversees the program. In addition to having a master's in social work, Paula is a licensed clinical social worker, also certified in family systems. She belongs to the National Association of Social Workers.



DONNA WILLIAMS
B.S.N., R.N., B.C.
Public Health Nurse
Supervisor

Donna supervises Public Health Nursing and Health Education Services. She has been with the department since 1994. She holds a bachelor's in nursing and is board certified as a community health nurse. She is current president of the Suburban Essex Nurse Supervisors' Association and chairs the Bloomfield Volunteer Emergency Squad Board of Trustees. She belongs to the Bloomfield College Nursing Advisory Board and to three nursing associations.

As supervisor, Donna ensures that Nursing adheres to state and federal health regulations, including following protocols in health emergencies. Often, she seeks outside resources offering no-cost or low-cost clinics and screenings as a way to serve more Bloomfield residents.



F. MICHAEL
FITZPATRICK
M.A., R.E.H.S., H.O.
Health Officer

In 2009 Mike became the department's licensed health officer. He holds a master's in community health planning and is also a registered environmental health specialist. He has been a professional presenter throughout the state on topics ranging from health and housing to environmental services. He belongs to national and state environmental health associations, as well as professional organizations devoted to radon scientists, environmental assessments, professional home inspectors and NJ health officers.



VINCENT NICOSIA
B.S., R.E.H.S.
Environmental Health
Supervisor

Vincent has been with the department for 21 years and is the chief registered environmental health specialist, supervising the Environmental Health staff. He enforces health codes that regulate retail food establishments, schools, child care centers and beauty/nail salons. He enforces and resolves environmental complaints in Bloomfield and Caldwell regarding public health nuisances such as solid waste, noise, insufficient heat and certain property maintenance violations.

In addition to his bachelor's degree, Vincent has a license to conduct lead inspections and risk assessments and has special training in asbestos handling, bioterrorism and food safety. He belongs to the NJ Environmental Health Association.

Human Services is the township’s outpatient mental health and social services center. We aim to foster a sense of well-being and wholeness. Public health social workers provide counseling, crisis intervention, home visits and assessments as required by state-mandated practice standards. We are aided by a contracted psychiatrist who prescribes medications and conducts consultations as needed.

At all times, special attention is given to Bloomfield’s most vulnerable populations: the elderly, people with special needs, and children. Public health social workers screen patients to determine if they are receiving all applicable services from government programs and nonprofit agencies. Educational programs, workshops and support groups address emotional and financial needs.

Average Monthly Case Load (by patient)			
Description	Psychotherapy	Clinical Case Management	Total
Avg Monthly Cases	92	50	142
Caseload By Age			
55 and older	28	33	61
18 – 54 years	42	17	59
17 years and under	22		22

A Summary of Our Services

- Psychotherapy for individuals, couples and groups, as well as play therapy.
- Volunteer services through the Neighbor to Neighbor Network.
- School-based counseling, consultation, and prevention programs.
- Case management for at-risk residents in need of on-going services and referrals.
- Crisis intervention and mental health disaster response.
- Employee assistance program services.
- Psychiatric evaluation and medication monitoring.
- Confidential depression and anxiety screenings.
- Benefit screenings for social and financial services.
- Senior services, both in-home and office-based.





Annual Case Load (by activity)			
Activity	Psychotherapy	Clinical Case Management	Total
Medication Visits	275		275
Office Visits	806	476	1,282
Home Visits	382	200	582
Case Mgmt Hours	567	615	1,182
Total Activity	2,030	1,291	3,321



Above: *Neighbor to Neighbor Network* volunteers teamed with seniors at Felicity Tower to plant flowers around the senior residence during the 2011 “Planting the Seeds of Change” event.

At Left: *The County of Essex Welfare Van* is stationed in front of town hall once every month. Residents can get an appointment to find out if they qualify for food stamps, cash assistance programs, and certain Medicaid programs.

Annual Human Services Requests	
Total Initial Contacts	1,640
55 and older	630
18 – 54 years	964
17 years and under	46
Female Head of Household	862

2011 Human Services requests increased 11% compared to 2010. Continued economic difficulties faced by residents impacted their need for social services, mental health services, and crisis intervention.

Mental Health and Social Services

Confidential outpatient counseling is available for many mental health disorders, including depression, anxiety, panic, post-traumatic stress, bipolar or phobias, and issues related to grief, aging, self-esteem or family conflict. All clinical services are strictly confidential and fees vary depending on income and family size. No one is refused service due to inability to pay.

■ **Counseling.** Residents can schedule appointments for individual, couple, family, group or child/adolescent counseling. Home-based counseling for seniors and people with disabilities is also available, as well as play therapy for children as young as age 4, and school-based child counseling as requested.

■ **Psychiatric Services.** A consulting psychiatrist is available for psychiatric assessment and medication monitoring. Home-based consultations and assessments for seniors and disabled residents are available when indicated.

■ **Crisis Intervention.** Individuals who experience depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts or confusion can reach out to a trained professional for individual or family counseling. The division also offers psychological first aid, on-site assessment and referral, and phone support during regular business hours. The staff responds to police requests for assistance in psychiatric emergencies.

Social Services / Welfare Contact (nonclinical)	
Analysis type	Total Served
# of benefits screenings conducted in food pantry	250
Units of food delivered from pantry	4,800
Utility screenings/referrals	190
Welfare van appointments at municipal building	216
Total Referrals, Low / Moderate Income Families	5,456

Senior Services

■ **Information and Referral.** To help seniors remain independent and in their own homes, the division provides a social work professional to identify individual needs and appropriate resources.

■ **Outreach.** Home visits are designed to assist seniors with problem-solving. Home-based counseling and mental health assessments are provided when requested.

■ **Consultation.** The staff consults with family members, groups and organizations regarding senior citizen issues.

NEIGHBOR to neighbor NETWORK



The Neighbor to Neighbor Network is the volunteer arm of the Division of Human Services. NTNN recruits and trains volunteers to support Bloomfield's needy populations through nontraditional programs, with an emphasis on seniors, low-income families and animals.

■ **Friendly Visitor Program** is designed for elderly residents who are isolated, homebound, and struggling to stay independent. It helps them as they age or deal with disabilities. NTNN recruits friendly visitors who provide companionship and a listening ear. Often they assist with grocery shopping, errands, and minor home care. Each visitor aims to develop a meaningful relationship with a senior.

■ **Food Delivery Program** - NTNN works with the Human Needs Food Pantry in Montclair to deliver food to those who qualify for food assistance, but who cannot get to the

pantry due to age or disability. Weekly deliveries to more than 100 Bloomfield individuals and families include fresh fruits, vegetables, meat/poultry and canned goods. Often, our deliveries are their only source of food.

■ **Trap-Neuter-Return** - Homeless cats are trapped using humane cage traps. The cats are spayed or neutered, vaccinated against rabies and distemper, treated for ear mites, fleas and worms, then returned to the managed colony where they were trapped. At least one volunteer is assigned to each managed colony for feeding and monitoring for injuries, pregnancies or new cats.

Human Services / Neighbor To Neighbor Network

■ **Township of Bloomfield, John A. Bukowski Shelter for Animals** - NTNN oversees the dedicated shelter volunteers who walk dogs, socialize cats, groom animals, provide administrative support, and serve on shelter committees, including adoption, trap/neuter/release, fundraising, and media.

■ **Community Collaboration** - Local colleges, faith and community groups, and businesses support NTNN throughout the year. They help with fundraisers, food drives, coat drives, toy drives, provide holiday parties for low-income families, and volunteer at events.

■ **Expanded Service** - In 2011, NTNN began sponsoring the Family Day Nursery, a Bloomfield child care center that caters to low-income families. NTNN also contracted with Felicity Towers to provide senior services.

As of Jan. 1, 2012, NTNN and Human Services expanded its services to residents of Glen Ridge.

NTNN Senior Services in 2011

Seniors served	160
Volunteers recruited, trained for senior programs	94
Volunteer hours spent visiting with seniors	4,160
Volunteer hours spent delivering food to seniors	1,560

NTNN / Human Services Programs

Coats distributed through community coat drives	400
Thanksgiving baskets delivered	268
People who attended holiday events	378
Holiday gifts (from churches, individuals, businesses)	733
Xmas trees to families, donated by local nursery	10
Holiday food units received from the pantry for Xmas	100
Value of resident donations, holiday food, gifts, emergency needs	\$2,100

All 2011 program services were up 72% over 2010 thanks to local faith groups, individuals and businesses.



NTNN clients got to know one another at the “What’s Your Story” event.

Child Advocacy

Through the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network, Human Services' information specialists help parents, educators, and service providers attain appropriate education and healthcare for children. Human Services and SPAN offer emotional support, workshops, seminars and information for parents of children with disabilities.



The Family Day Nursery in downtown Bloomfield offers affordable childcare for children ages 2-1/2 through 6 years old. The nursery is sponsored by the NTNN and tours are available for interested parents.

NTNN Referrals / Collaborations

Bloomfield Human Services and its volunteer arm, NTNN, collaborate with these community partners to provide comprehensive resident services:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Adult Protective Services | Montclair Human Needs Food Pantry |
| American Red Cross of Metrowest | Monica's Hair |
| Birthright | Montclair Neighborhood Development Corp. |
| Bloomfield College | Nanina's in the Park |
| Bloomfield Public Schools | National Council of Jewish Women |
| Brookside Garden Center | Newark Emergency Services |
| Building managers in rental properties | Newark Legal Services |
| Community Health Law Project | NJ Div. of Vocational Rehabilitative Services |
| Dentistry for Children | NJ Div. of Youth and Family Services |
| East Orange Mobile Crisis/Screening Center | NJ SHARES |
| Dorot's University Without Walls | NJ Social Security Disability Determination |
| Home Friends | Pantry Partners |
| Essex County Community Action | Partners for Health |
| Essex County Division of Senior Services | Partners for Women and Justice |
| Essex County Division of Welfare | Perform Care |
| Faith-based organizations | Projects for Assistance in Transition |
| Family Support Org. of Essex County | from Homelessness |
| Hoffman La Roche | Project Live, Inc. (supportive housing) |
| Integrated Case Management Services | Program of Assertive Community Treatment |
| Intensive Family Support Services | Rutgers University |
| Kinder Towers and Felicity Towers | Salvation Army |
| La Casa de Don Pedro | The Olive Garden |
| Lions Club | Town Pub |
| Local hospitals (Mountainside, Clara Maass, East Orange General) | United Way of Bloomfield |
| Lummus Technology | Wells Fargo |

In Public Health Nursing, the population is the patient – in our case, the residents of Bloomfield Township. We focus on achieving the greatest good for every resident using nursing strategies that promote and protect the public's health.

We identify and reach out to all who might benefit from our specific programs and services, while collaborating with community stakeholders who are invested in improving the health of individuals, families and the greater community.

Savings for Public Health Nursing users

The cost of Bloomfield Public Health Nursing (PHN) programs and screenings is significantly lower than the cost of the same services obtained from private healthcare providers. The following comparison shows our 2011 cost for serving local residents in four programs compared to the cost of the same services had they been provided by private healthcare offices.

Screenings and Programs

Private - \$129,105

PHN - \$5,207

Savings for PHN users - \$123,898

Adult Vaccination Program

(includes office visit and vaccine)

Private - \$21,032

PHN - \$1,665

Savings for PHN users - \$19,367

Pediatric Vaccines, Lead and Anemia Screenings

Private - \$78,292

PHN - \$4,100

Savings for PHN users - \$74,192

Tuberculosis Control Program

Private - \$38,042

PHN - \$3,645

Savings to PHN users - \$34,397



2011 Nursing Activity Report

2,951	Health information inquiries, including phone calls, walk-ins
548	Referrals to other agencies, e.g., Planned Parenthood, or federally qualified health care centers
178	Assistance to child care centers
43	Immunization audits conducted at child care centers
2,354	Child care center charts audited
280	Instances of assistance to public school nurses
11	Bloomfield public schools audited
2,027	Immunization audits conducted at Bloomfield public schools
1,892	Immunization deficiencies found during child care center audits
91	Immunization deficiencies found during public school audits
86	Tuberculosis medications ordered
1,126	Appointments made for clinics/screenings: child or employee health, chest clinic, bone density, respiratory screening, blood chemistry, etc.
535	Vaccine doses ordered for Well Child Program
498	Temperature checks on stored vaccines to ensure safety
540	"Welcome New Baby" letters sent (Well Child Program)
18	Flyers prepared for upcoming clinics and screenings
419	Flyers mailed to community partners

Programs / Screenings

- Blood Pressure – 62 screenings, 382 patients seen; 27 referrals.
- Urinalysis – 3 screenings, 15 patients seen, 9 referrals.
- Diabetes – 4 screenings, 19 patients seen, 2 referrals.
- Colorectal Cancer – 3 screening kits distributed, 3 returned; 0 referrals.
- Bone Density – 6 screenings, 53 patients seen, 5 referrals.
- Pap Smear and Mammogram – 3 screenings, 69 women seen.
- Respiratory Screening – 1 screening, 5 patients seen.
- Blood Chemistry and PSA – 2 screenings, 107 patients seen, 12 referrals.
- Stroke – 3 screenings, 30 patients seen.

Thank You, Clinic Partners!

Public Health Nursing extends sincere gratitude to our community partners, without whom we could not provide some of our no-cost or low-cost screenings.

Mountainside Hospital Community Health: low-cost bone density screening, respiratory screening, and stroke screening.

UMDNJ SAVE: free pap smear and mammography to qualified women, as well as follow-up.

Medical Laboratory Diagnostics: low-cost blood chemistry and PSA.

Communicable Diseases

All communicable diseases are reported to the state through the Communicable Disease Registry Surveillance System, a secure online system. Public health nurses have been trained by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services to use the system.

2	Hepatitis A *	3	Giardia
35	Hepatitis B **	1	E. Coli
78	Hepatitis C **	13	Salmonella
37	Lyme	2	Pertussis
12	Campylobacter	0	Shigelosis
15	Varicella	4	Legionella
0	Mumps	3	Amebiasis
0	Group A Strep	1	Babesiosis
0	Neserria Meningitidis	3	Strep Pneumonia
0	Rubella	0	Group B Strep
3	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	1	Influenza, novel A
1	West Nile Virus	1	Influenza, type A, H3
0	Vancomycin Intermediate Staphylococcus Aureus	3	Influenza, type A
		2	Influenza, type B
Total: 216			

* Hepatitis A Cases - Contacts are identified in patient interviews, then notified by the public health nurse. Based on age, contacts are given hepatitis A vaccine (if not previously immunized) or immunoglobulin to protect against hepatitis A. To be effective, this prophylaxis must be given within a specific time frame. Per NJDHSS, hepatitis A is an immediately reportable disease.

** Hepatitis B & C Cases - decreased notably in 2011, compared to 2010 when there were 63 hepatitis B cases and 97 hepatitis C cases. State reporting requirements may account for the difference.

Adult Vaccine Clinic

40	Number of sessions
56	Patients seen
113	Nurse assessments/counseling
65	Vaccines administered

Two vaccines were added to the adult clinic in 2011. Hepatitis A and B vaccines are offered in addition to vaccines for Tdap, human papilloma virus, meningitis and pneumonia.

A change in requirements from the CDC now lets providers administer Tdap to those over age 65 who were previously excluded.

Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program

5	Average active cases per month
3	New cases
11	Closed/transferred cases
109	Correspondence to parent or health care provider

Pregnant women who are hepatitis B positive are referred to Public Health Nursing for health counseling regarding transmission of the disease. Prophylaxis is offered to their sexual contacts as indicated.

The child, when born, becomes our patient. We ensure that the entire hepatitis B vaccine series is administered to the child at correct intervals between doses.

Between the ages of 17 to 19 months, the child will have serology to determine immunity against hepatitis B.

Senior Home Visits



Our office makes monthly visits to homebound senior citizens thanks to a grant from the Essex County Division of Senior Services.

During each visit, a nursing assessment is conducted, medications are discussed and referrals to outside resources are made when indicated.

In 2011, two public health nurses conducted 314 senior home visits and made 27 referrals.

Tuberculosis Control

Public Health Nursing performs tuberculin skin tests for residents who require the test for employment or school entrance. Once a month, a physician examines residents diagnosed with latent tuberculosis infection. The physician may prescribe medication, which our office provides for free through the state's Tuberculosis Control Program. Nurse case management is provided to those prescribed medication therapy.

361	Total patient appointments
245	Total tuberculin skin tests
3	Tests referred
29	Referred for chest X-ray
12	Referred for bloodwork
2	Referred for abnormal chest X-ray or bloodwork
9	Prescribed anti-tuberculin medication
145	Discharged from clinic
19	Active cases as of Dec. 2011
270	Letters and phone calls to patients/physicians
67	Monthly treatment reports to schools

Well Child Program

#	WCP Activity	Refs
421	Immunization records assessed	
107	Registered into WCP	
321	Children entered into NJIIS *	
82	Discharged from WCP	
361	Outreach to parents/guardians, health care providers, or school	
40	WCP sessions in 2011	
132	New patients	
102	Previously seen patients, with first-time appointment in 2011	
78	Patient revisits	
281	Exams by WCP physician	2
423	Parents/guardians who received nurse assessment/counseling about their kids	1
310	Immunizations administered	
7	Tuberculin skin tests	
30	Childhood lead screening	
31	Childhood anemia screening	
80	Ages and stages questionnaires	4
305	Nutritional assessments	1
316	Oral assessments	
695	Vaccines administered	
351	NJIIS data entry	
390	Charts prepared for WCP clinic	
18	Postpartum depression screenings	1
17	Autism screenings	

The Well Child Program is offered weekly to Bloomfield and Caldwell residents ages 2 months through 18 years, who are uninsured, underinsured, or have NJ Family Care. The program includes:

- Age-appropriate vaccines
- Nursing assessment
- Health counseling
- Age-appropriate growth and development assessment
- Physical exam by our physician
- Lead screening based on age and risk
- Anemia screening based on age and risk
- Tuberculin skin test, as indicated

The Well Child Program does not pay for vaccines.

** New Jersey Immunization Information System. Provides current, recommended immunization schedules for infants, adolescents, and adults.*

NJ Family Care

A representative from New Jersey Family Care comes to the Public Health Nursing office during the Well Child Program. The representative helps residents fill out Family Care applications accurately and helps them understand the program more clearly. In 2011, 90 applications were completed with representative assistance.

Childhood Lead Poisoning

Nurse case management and counseling are provided for children diagnosed with lead poisoning. In accordance with state law, the nurse contacts the parent and healthcare

7	Active cases as of Dec. 2011
7	New cases in 2011
7	Public Health Nurse home visits
6	Closed/transferred cases in 2011
206	Correspondence to parent/HCP
36	Lead results entered on NJIIS
444	Welligent LeadTRAX monitoring

provider, makes home visits and draws updated blood samples in follow-up.

It may take five years for a child's normal blood lead level to return.

In New Jersey, childhood lead poisoning cases are reported to NJDHSS through Welligent LeadTRAX, a secure online system. Public health nurses receive state training to use the system.

School Sports-Related Injury Policy

In December 2010, a new state law, Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Health Injuries, was passed and became effective in September 2011. Each school district, charter, and non-public school that participates in interscholastic athletics is required to adopt policies and programs for the prevention, treatment, and education of sports-related concussions and head injuries. Bloomfield's non-public school nurse developed

policies with the St. Thomas the Apostle School principal and also completed an online Interscholastic Head Injury Training Program.

Non-Public School Health Services

Public Health Nursing provides health services to St. Thomas the Apostle School in Bloomfield. A part-time public health nurse conducts screenings, distributes medication and first aid to students, and manages immunization audits. The nurse also assists with health policies.

#	Non-School Activity	Refs
1,160	First aid to students	143
851	Students with illness	216
181	Medication distribution	4
132	Immunization records assessed	93
4	Tuberculin skin testing: staff and/or student	
213	Heights and weights	
152	Vision screening	3
148	Hearing screening	
114	Blood pressure screening	7
13	Scoliosis screening	
7	Child study team screenings	
64	Pediculosis assessment (head lice)	
3	School delegates trained on EpiPen	
2	Student transports by EMT squad	

Environmental Services

In 2011, Environmental Services inspected 551 facilities and investigated 1,258 citizen complaints, for a total of 1,809 investigations in Bloomfield. The work resulted in 134 court summonses and \$17,565 in court fines. In Caldwell, we investigated all citizen complaints to protect residents and fulfill our contractual obligations.

Sanitary Inspections

To ensure compliance with state and local regulations, our staff inspected restaurants, schools, churches, day care centers, hair and nail salons, body art shops, gymnasiums, boarding homes, nursing homes, pet shops, youth camps and public pools. During inspections, we stressed food safety practices to merchants. Inspection results were published monthly on the township website and in the local media.

Site Complaints

Staff responded to residents complaints about issues such as solid waste, insufficient heat, litter, rodents, noise and certain property maintenance issues. Inspectors conducted timely follow-ups to ensure abatement.

2011 Retail Food Vendor Inspections	
Chapter 24 food inspections *	232
Chapter 24 re-inspections	102
Hair/nail salons	46
Mobile/temporary vendor	22
Food complaints	38
Pool inspections	5
Certificates of occupancy	46
Temporary food permits	28
Plan review for business renovation or new construction	32
Total Inspections:	551

* Chapter 24 is the state sanitary code

Waste Monitoring

The staff monitored solid waste, litter and illegal dumping issues in township business districts.

Potable Water Samples

Each month, we acquired 50 potable water samples from residential and business locations to analyze bacteria and chlorine levels in the drinking water. Samples were analyzed by our state-certified laboratory and results were monitored by the health and engineering departments.

Childhood Lead Poisoning

Dwelling inspections and painted surface testing resulted in abatement orders, environmental and nursing intervention, and follow-up inspections as necessary.

Citizen Complaints	
Initial complaint investigations	1,258
Re-inspections	760
Total Investigations/Inspections	2,018
Violation notices issued	924
Court summonses issued	134

Sampling & Miscellaneous	
Water samples	624
Food	6
Embargo / Destruction	54
THM / HAA5 *	12
Total Sampling Activities	696

* Tests for residual chlorine.



Health Education is an integral component of the Health and Human Services Department. Programs such as alcohol abuse control, drug abuse control, tobacco use prevention/cessation, nutrition, injury control, bloodborne pathogen safety, home safety, and HIV/AIDS education are provided directly by the health educator or coordinated with other community agencies.

■ Grant Writing and Management

In 2011, the health educator wrote a successful application for a \$10,000 H1N1 readiness grant from the New Jersey Health Officers' Association to fund the department's readiness and educational efforts for pandemic flu.

■ Community Education

Health Education produced several educational press releases and articles for local newspapers and the Bloomfield BUZZ (the township newsletter). The

“Many health department activities are devoted to solving a problem — but a health educator can solve problems before they start.”

—Institute of Medicine

office also coordinated almost two dozen trainings and health education programs for residents and township personnel. The programs included tobacco prevention/cessation, bloodborne pathogen training, HAZCOM training, cultural diversity training, depression, and vision health.

■ Weekly Health Tips

To provide easily accessible public information, Health Education initiated “Weekly Health Tips,” an e-mail newsletter. Each week, the Health Educator researched timely topics and published concise information with actionable tips. Topics included, Assess Your Sleep Habits, Limit Alcohol, and Teach Kids Healthy Habits.

■ National Accreditation

Much of Health Education's efforts during 2011 were focused on the department's goal of achieving national accreditation via the Public Health Accreditation Board. We completed Bloomfield's Community Health Assessment and wrote the department's strategic plan, an internal document that sets forth our vision, values, and strategic priorities. It also describes measurable goals.

Vital Statistics

Vital Statistics records and safeguards documents pertaining to the most important events in a person's life: birth, marriage/civil union/domestic partnership, and death. The information is often necessary to obtain a driver's license, a passport, or to secure a job. For a small fee, the office provides the following documents:

- Marriage/civil union licenses.
- Affidavits of domestic partnership
- Certified copies of certificates of birth, marriage, civil union, domestic partnership and death.

The Registrar of Vital Statistics also uses telephone and in-person interviews as well as written communication, to research vital records for funeral directors, attorneys, municipal offices and government agencies.



2011 Vital Statistics

264	Marriage/civil union applications accepted
386	Marriage/civil union licenses issued
143	Marriage/civil union certificates accepted for filing
433	Marriage certificates issued
3	Disinterment permits issued
1,948	Certified copies of death certificates filed with ERDS
126	Death certificates filed with the state
182	Resident death certificates
2	Home births accepted and filed with the state
11	Certified copies of Bloomfield birth certificates issued
551	Resident birth certificates accepted
8	Vital statistics corrections

Animal Services



Animal Services held two successful rabies clinics in 2011 and vaccinated 327 dogs and cats.

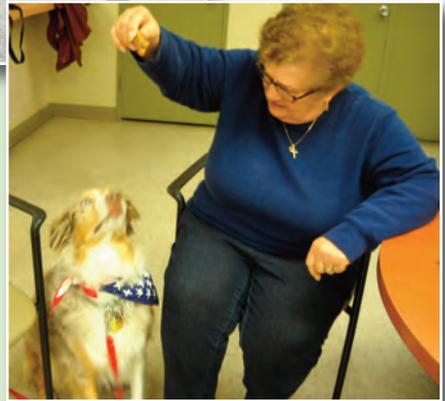
Animal Services maintains a dual role in caring for and finding homes for animals at the animal shelter, and responding to animal control complaints. The shelter staff's routine duties include cleaning, feeding and exercising shelter animals. Staff follow a disease control program that includes veterinary care performed under the supervision of veterinarian Felix Escudero.

In coordination with Environmental Services, Animal Services held two successful rabies clinics in 2011 and vaccinated 327 dogs and cats.

Animal control officers performed their core duty of safely securing stray dogs, cats and other animals. Animal control officers also responded to reports of sick or injured wildlife, animal bites, and animal cruelty or neglect. Enforcement actions included notices of violation, bite quarantine notices and summonses.

The Animal Services staff stressed public education in areas such as excluding and deterring wildlife and feral cats, spaying and neutering, relocating lost pets and adopting instead of buying pets.

In Caldwell, animal control officers responded to animal-related complaints as per our contract obligation.



"Lucky" a trained therapeutic dog attended an NTNN "Meet the Animals" event, where volunteers brought animals from the Bloomfield Animal Shelter to visit seniors.

Shelter Animals - 2011	
Total dogs altered	65
Total cats altered	125
TNR Program	
Feral cats trapped, neutered and returned	155

Bloomfield Department of Health & Human Services

1 Municipal Plaza, Room 111 • Bloomfield, NJ 07003
973-680-4024 • www.bloomfieldtwpnj.com/health



Public health agencies focus on prevention rather than treatment of diseases; on populations rather than individuals. Agencies like the Bloomfield Department of Health and Human Services work to improve lives through educational programs, public policy, community services, and research. Our work complements clinical medicine by improving life expectancy and quality of life, and by reducing the incidence of communicable diseases. We also strive to eliminate socio-economic gaps in the quality of health and healthcare.

New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services

800-367-6543
www.state.nj.us/health

Centers for Disease Control

800-CDC-INFO
800-232-4636
www.cdc.gov



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