

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



**Madison County
Public Health**

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Photo Acknowledgements:

FRONT & BACK COVERS—*Leland Pond Fall Beauty* by John Lynch (EATON)

A Note from the Board of Health President

The Board of Health is honored to serve the citizens of Madison County. We are fortunate to have dedicated board members with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Our mission is to guide, advocate and collaborate to ensure the essential public health services are provided to the community. We will continue to strive to improve and protect the health of everyone in our county.

"I would say resilience is the word of the year, given how much our world has faced, how much individuals have suffered, and how much sorrow the public has experienced. I don't use that word lightly, so to give more context, I believe that resilience is the ability to be cautiously optimistic and find purpose despite difficulties around us." - Kari Nadeau

COVID is no longer dominating the headlines as COVID symptoms and illness have become less severe. Increased immunity from vaccination and natural infection, as well as virus mutations, are contributing factors. However, the virus is still serious and deadly for many. Also, the full impact of long COVID or post-COVID conditions is unknown.

Chronic diseases continue to have significant effects on health. They are still leading causes of disability and death. Diseases such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, stroke and arthritis are still too prevalent, considering many of these chronic diseases are also preventable. Lifestyle choices are within most people's ability to change and prevent much suffering and illness. Making nutritious food choices, increasing physical activity, maintaining healthy weights and avoiding tobacco use decreases disease and prolongs lives.

Mental health issues are also public health issues. It is estimated that more than one in five U.S. adults live with a mental illness. And the highest incidence occurs in young adults 8 to 25 years of age, with about 30% experiencing mental health conditions. Mental health issues affect physical and social well-being. In addition, there is also a strong relationship between mental health issues and substance misuse. The National Institute on Drug Abuse states that one in four people with a serious mental illness also has a substance use disorder. Public health goals cannot be accomplished without addressing mental health concerns.

The Board of Health continues to work with Madison County Public Health (MCPH) to address the needs of our community. We strongly support Public Health's efforts to improve quality, accountability and performance by striving to become nationally accredited. The Board was actively involved with Public Health in the training and development of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Madison County. An Institutional Review Board reviews research studies to ensure that they comply with regulations, meet ethical standards, follow institutional policies, and protect research participants. An IRB will improve the ability to acquire and analyze information important for local public health decisions.

"For he who has health has hope; and he who has hope, has everything." - Owen Arthur
Thank you for being a part of a healthier Madison County.

John B. Endres, D.V.M.
President, Madison County Board of Health

Office of the Director

The Office of the Director oversees the administration of the County's Public Health Department and its implementation of NYS Public Health Law and mandated programs. The office coordinates the planning and implementation of the County's health goals and public health preparedness activities by employing the core functions and essential services of public health.

CNY Healthy Workforce Business Conference

The 2023 CNY Healthy Workforce Business conference was held on October 4th at the White Eagle Appley Center in Hamilton. The Conference was hosted for the 2nd time since 2019 with over 75 attendees from 34 local agencies and businesses throughout Central New York. Those in attendance heard from local and national experts on tangible ways to support their workforces, and participated in breakout sessions highlighting Safety, Wellness, and Leadership.

Keynote speakers from Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) gave incredible insight and offered tangible solutions to the 75+ business professionals in attendance.



Pictured Right: Deputy Director Erica Bird, providing the opening remarks for the 2023 HWF Conference.

Highlights

- **Rebranding**

A new Department logo was designed with a brand style guide that outlines how to consistently use and communicate our brand. The Department now refers to itself as Madison County Public Health, putting the focus on what we do and whom we serve. The new logo and branding strategy launched in July.

- **Website Redesign**

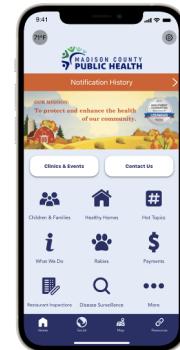
Alongside the Department's branding initiative, the Department's website underwent a comprehensive review and update. New features make it more mobile-responsive with functionality added to increase resident usability and engagement.

- **Strategic Plan**

The final 2023-2025 Strategic Plan shared with Madison County Public Health (MCPH) staff in June of 2023. A further dive into the Strategic Plan can be found on pages 14 & 15 of this document.

- **Public Health App**

2023 the Department launched the county's first-ever mobile app. This app for Android and Apple devices is free, and a new way to connect residents to valuable health information and resources. Mobile App users may select to get alerts and notifications at their fingertips about pop-up mobile dental van clinics, immunization, rabies clinics, and more.



Scan the QR code

*or click to download the
[Madison County Public Health app](#)*



Administrative Services

The Administrative Services Division provides critical operational support to the three service-based divisions of the Health Department: Environmental Health, Community Health, and Children With Special Health Care Needs.

Admin services the entire department by maintaining centralized cost accounting functions, oversight and direct support of departmental personnel and payroll activities, budget development, financial management, office management, communications, information security, emergency preparedness, HIPAA and Corporate Compliance, mandated reporting, and strategic planning.



Pictured Here:
2023 Administrative Services Staff L-R:
Shawn Prievo, Robin Warner, Angie
Burgdoff, Faith Hyde, Ashley O'Reilly, and
Crystal Miller

Table 1:
Department
Financial
Report

Department Financial Report

Madison County Department of Health
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
For the financial year ending 12/31/23

	Modified Budget	1/1/2023-12/31/23	(Under) Over
Revenues			
Public Health Administration	623,607	504,783	(118,824)
Preventive Health	677,517	715,544	38,027
Federal/State Grants	184,973	54,081	(130,892)
Early Intervention	226,790	304,103	77,313
Preschool Special Education	1,920,665	1,673,746	(246,919)
Environmental Services	816,820	750,026	(66,794)
Consumer Affairs	(11,322)	4,524	15,846
Total Revenues	4,439,050	4,006,807	(432,243)

	Modified Budget	1/1/2023-12/31/23	Under (Over)
Expenses			
Public Health Administration	1,041,027	910,767	130,260
Preventive Health	1,017,732	845,600	172,132
Federal/State Grants	184,973	64,006	120,967
Early Intervention	772,425	707,396	65,029
Preschool Special Education	4,311,777	3,653,896	657,881
Environmental Services	1,021,329	910,779	110,550
Consumer Affairs	108,565	65,460	43,105
Total Expenses	8,457,828	7,157,904	1,299,924

	County Share Budget	Actual County Cost	Actual/Budget Comparison
County Share	\$4,018,778	\$3,151,097	+ \$ 867,681.45

- Worse than Expected compared to Budget
+ Better than Expected compared to Budget

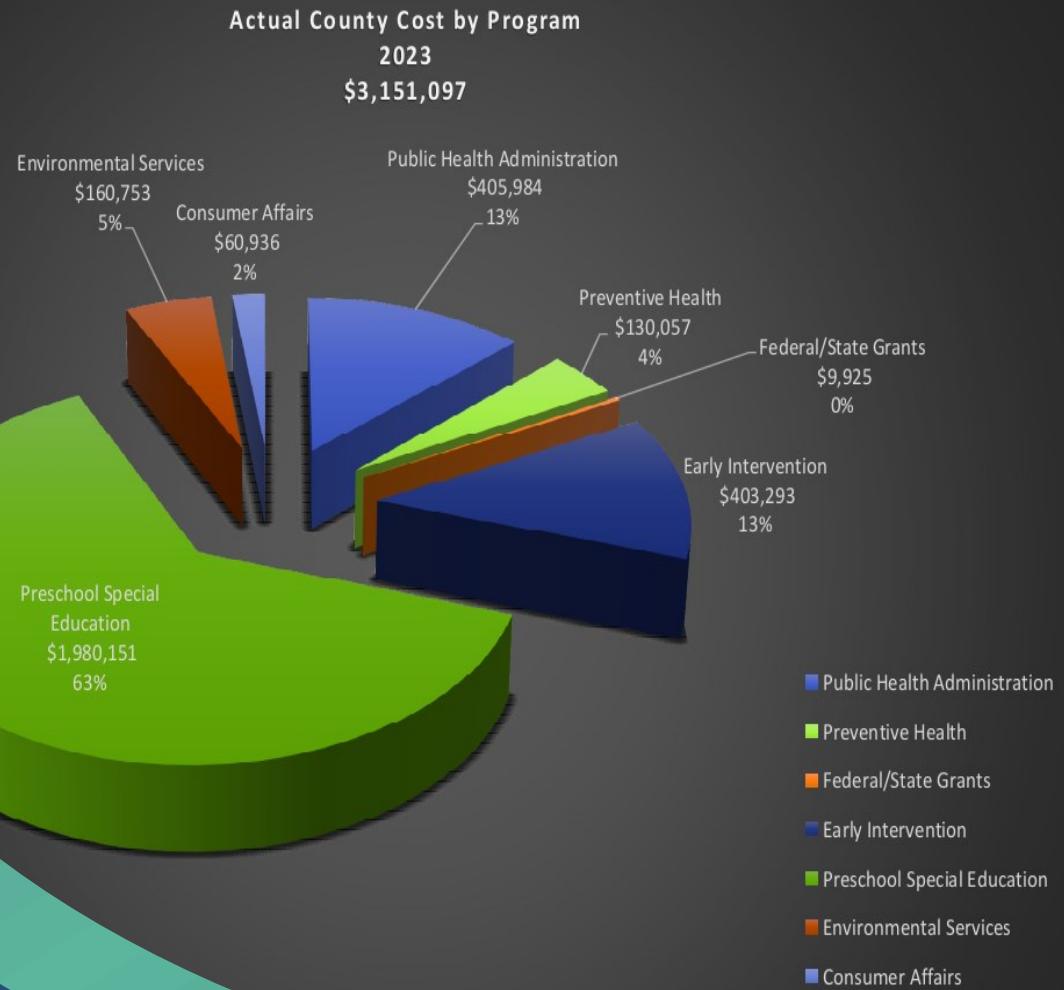


Chart 1: Actual Program Costs

Highlights

- 2023 brought several staffing changes in Administrative Services. The department hired a new Director of Administrative Services, and Assistant Director of Administrative Services to ensure that the division continued to maintain and improve important daily functions for the department.
- The division led a quality improvement project for Record Retention that was finalized in 2023. The goal was to create an up-to-date database centralized access point to locate documents as well as comply with all state and federal regulations on how long to keep program records. The Record Retention database is currently available on the department shared drive with location of files along with retention schedule. File cabinets have been labelled accurately and over 500,000 records that exceeded retention requirements were purged.

Children with Special Health Care Needs

The Children with Special Health Care Needs Division is made up of three programs that assist families of children with special needs in a variety of ways from ages birth to 21.

The Information and Referral Program provides assistance to families of children who have or may have a serious or chronic physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional condition residing in Madison County. This program assists families in accessing private or public insurance, provides information regarding support groups, parent trainings on a variety of topics, car seats and establishing other needed connections to community resources.

The Early Intervention Program is a voluntary family centered program focusing on the needs of the child. Children are found eligible through screening and or evaluation. Services may include Special Education Teacher, Occupational, Physical or Speech Therapies, family training or other services specific to that child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Early Intervention services are provided in the child's natural environment including the child's daycare, a community setting or in their home. (***Child Find*** is another component of the Early Intervention Program that helps in determining if further intervention may be needed.)

The Preschool Program is governed by Federal and State laws, and grants administrative authority to school districts located in Madison County. Services for this program occur in the child's least restrictive environment (LRE). Following an evaluation a qualifying child will receive a classification and an outlined Individualized Education Program (IEP). Services under the preschool program may include evaluation, special education teacher services, occupational, physical, and speech therapies, parent training and other services specific to the child's plan. The County is also responsible for transportation of children attending approved Preschool Center based Special Education Programs. This includes bussing and or travel reimbursement.

Total Served	2021	2022	2023
Early Intervention	205	181	241
Preschool	272	282	285
Information & Referral	13	13	29

Children with Special Health Care Needs staff picture
L-R: Julia Wootton,
Tara Skinner, Jessica Salay,
Sarah Eschmann, and
Shelly DeGroat



Highlights

This year the Children with Special Health Care Needs Division (CSHCN) of Madison County underwent some personnel changes.

- The long-standing Director of CSHCN retired at the end of July after 11 years of service. Her many years of service and inspiration are greatly appreciated. One of the Department's veteran Service Coordinators was promoted to the position in August.
- DocuSign process implemented for parental consent, saving on time and mileage for the Early Intervention Service Coordinators and families.

The CSHCN division has a very dedicated and compassionate group of individuals serving Madison County children with special needs. In the next year the division looks forward to onboarding a new Assistant Director for Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Community Health

The Community Health Division provides programs and services which focus on illness prevention and health maintenance. This includes programs such as immunization clinics, tuberculosis screening and assessment clinic, communicable disease investigation, maternal child health home visiting, car seat program, lead poisoning prevention home visiting and other programs. Programming is designed to promote the highest level of health for Madison County residents.

2023 was a busy year, here are some of the highlights:

- In June, Madison County Public Health became an Opioid Overdose Prevention Program. This allows the division to provide naloxone training and naloxone kits to the community.
- Working with Partnership to End Addiction, MCPH is now able to offer an informational text message service about harm reduction and overdose. This 30-day informational text message program was offered free of charge to registered subscribers. In addition, subscribers could opt to participate in the SPIKE alert text message program which texted information to the subscriber when OD Map indicated a spike in overdoses in the community.



Community Health Division Director, Rebecca LaPorte provides information and an interview to "Polly" from Big Frog 104 about the flu shot.

Highlights

- The annual “Party in the Park, A World Breastfeeding Week Celebration for Families” was successful with 102 people attending the event. Attendees enjoyed family activities, door prizes, and connections with a number of community resources.
- The Community Health (CH) Division welcomed a new Epidemiologist and Community Health Worker in 2023. They have been excellent additions to the Department.
- A School Nurse report was created to provide school nurses with up-to-date information on illness activity in the community and school districts. This summary has helped keep school nurses up to date on what illnesses are spreading in community schools.
- The CH division created new satisfaction surveys that have been implemented in every program. Each survey now has a digital completion option, and has been shortened and simplified in hopes of receiving more feedback about Department programs. Survey results will be used to further improve our services to our residents.
- The new COVID-19 vaccine is now being offered for all age groups, and the Department also started offering the new RSV antibody product for infants.
- Clinic Services have become more sensory friendly thanks to a partnership with Autism Society of America, which has provided goodie bags for those attending clinics. The bags contain sunglasses, noise cancelling headphones, a stress ball, a shot blocker, and stickers. They have been very popular with young clinic attendees who report the shot blockers make the shot less painful.

Service	Number Served
Disease Investigations	1,593 lab reports addressed (not including COVID, influenza, or RSV laboratory reports)
Immunizations	635 individuals immunized
Maternal & Child Health	346 home visits
Child Safety Seats	87 seats distributed (47 by Madison County and 40 by partner agencies)
Lead Poisoning Prevention	16 home visits

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Division applies the principles of engineering, biological and social sciences for the detection, evaluation, control and management of those factors in the environments which influence public health

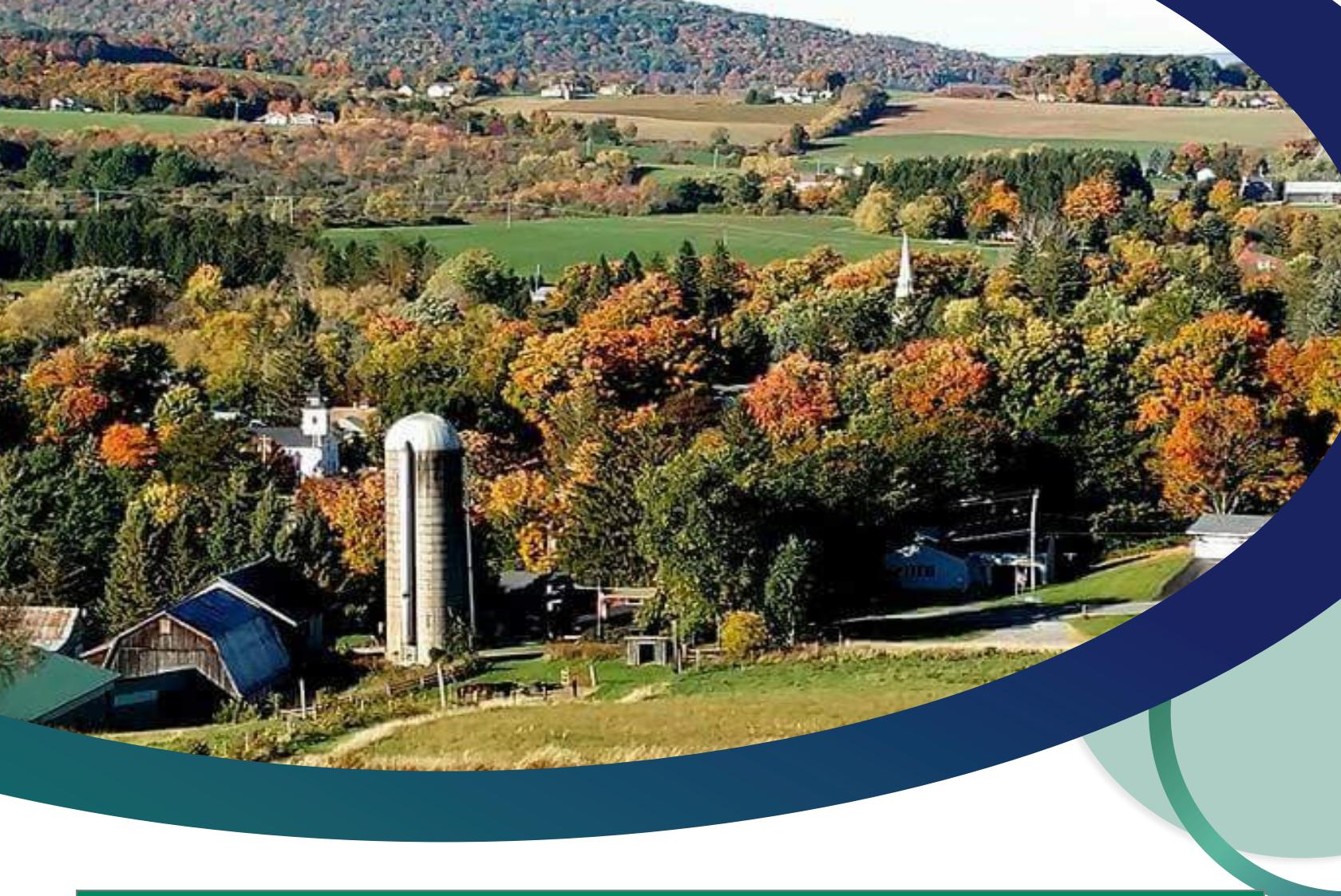


Highlights

- Weights and Measures performed tests on almost 1400 devices in 2023. The most tested devices were petroleum dispensing meters (gas pumps). These devices makeup approximately 40% of the program workload. MCWM also performed petroleum quality sampling/testing at all retail facilities located within Madison County.
- In 2023 the division embarked on a goal of standardizing inspections for field activities for the regulated community. Food service inspections were first to be standardized. This process has improved Department consistency and efficiency which provides for fair and objective compliance assessments.
- In 2023, a staff member completed the 6-part Recreational Water Design & Approval Training presented by the New York State Department of Health. Many of the skills learned will aid in preventing future issues during the design phase of a projects for swimming pools, spray parks, and spa construction.
- Staff continued to complete compliance inspections at local tobacco and vape retailers. In 2023, 10 vape retailers were fined \$19,240 for underage purchase violations and/or offering for sale flavored vape products.

Photo Acknowledgement:

ON THE RIGHT—New Woodstock from atop Mullet Mtn. by Zachary Titus (CAZENOVIA)



Facility Inspections	Completed
Campgrounds	16
Children's Camps	7
Food Service Establishments	390
Public Water Supply	116
Adolescent Prevention Program	
Active Retail Facilities	53
Total Compliance Checks	107
Rabies Prevention Program	
Animal Bite Referrals	177
Animals Positive for Rabies	7
Rabies Clinics Offered	6
Total Animals Vaccinated (Cats, Dogs & Ferrets)	888
Mosquito Surveillance Program	
Mosquito Pools Submitted	201
Positive West Nile Virus Pool	1
Positive Eastern Equine Encephalitis Pools	0

Strategic Plan

The 2023-2025 Strategic Plan will guide our department's activities and the alignment of resources over the next three years by outlining a step-by-step process defining the organization's goals and objectives, with an end strategy that can be implemented and evaluated. The plan describes the department's role in addressing the priority areas identified through the 2022 Community Health Assessment (CHA) and 2023 Strategic Planning processes.

The following goals and objectives were established in the Strategic Plan to address the priority areas identified by the CHA:

- Chronic Disease
- Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders
- Oral Health
- ACEs
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Community Engagement
- Data Modernization (referred to as Health Informatics)

In addition, Accreditation Status was added as a priority area to the 2023-2025 plan. Lung cancer and vaping were integrated into the Chronic Disease priority area, and the remaining strategic issues identified were interwoven into the goals and objectives.

Within each health priority area, the Strategic Plan aims to incorporate at least one activity within each Strategic Directive as determined by the Madison County Board of Health. There are three overarching Strategic Directives that work together to build a healthier Madison County: Healthy Care, Healthy Behaviors, and Healthy Environment.

Healthy Environments

Create and sustain social and physical environments that are accessible; that support health, safety, and quality of life; and that promote health



Healthy Behavior

Support individuals at each life stage in making healthy choices.



Healthy Care

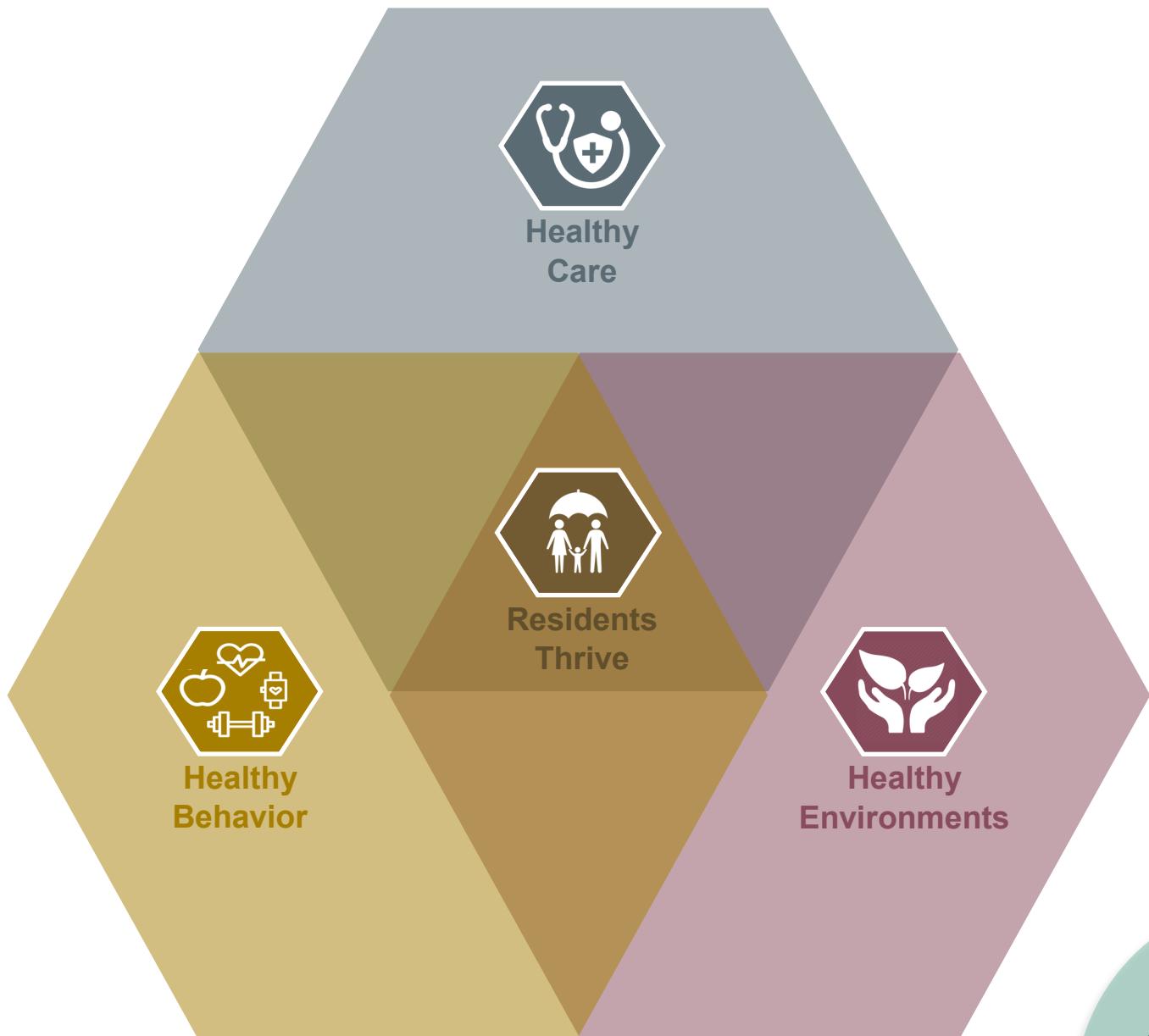
Ensure access to and receipt of recommended quality, effective, evidence-based preventive and health care services and information,



Healthy Department

Improve Madison County Public Health capacity to maintain a high performing and progressive





Strategic Directives

The area where the three directives converge symbolizes the place in which all community members thrive. In addition to the three directives, Madison County Public Health recognizes a Healthy Department as a pillar for advancing the health of community members.

2023 County Health Rankings

Health Outcomes

Madison County **New York** **United States**

Length of Life

Premature Death	5,300	6,000	7,300
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Quality of Life

Poor or Fair Health	11%	▼	12%	▼	12%	▼
Poor Physical Health Days	2.9	▼	2.7	▼	3.0	▼
Poor Mental Health Days	4.9	▲	4.1	▲	4.4	▼
Low Birthweight	7%	—	8%	—	8%	—

Health Factors

Health Behaviors

Adult Smoking	17%	▼	12%	▼	16%	—
Adult Obesity	29%	▼	27%	—	32%	—
Food Environment Index	8.3	▼	8.9	▼	7.0	▼
Physical Inactivity	21%	▼	25%	▼	22%	▼
Access to Exercise Opportunities	70%	▼	93%	▼	84%	▼
Excessive Drinking	23%	—	18%	▼	19%	▼
Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths	14%	—	20%	—	27%	—
Sexually Transmitted Infections	203.0	▼	502.3	▼	481.3	▼
Teen Births	9	—	13	—	19	—

Clinical Care

Uninsured	5%	▲	6%	—	10%	▲
Primary Care Physicians	1,410:1	▲	1,170:1	▲	1,310:1	—
Dentists	2,710:1	—	1,220:1	▼	1,380:1	▲
Mental Health Providers	440:1	▲	300:1	▲	340:1	▲
Preventable Hospital Stays	2,495	▼	2,586	▼	2,809	▼
Mammography Screening	45%	▲	37%	▲	37%	▲
Flu Vaccinations	50%	▼	53%	▼	51%	▼

Social & Economic Factors

High School Completion	93%	—	87%	—	89%	—
Some College	60%	▲	70%	—	67%	—
Unemployment	4.5%	▼	6.9%	▼	5.4%	▼
Children in Poverty	14%	—	19%	▲	17%	▲
Income Inequality	4.5	▲	5.8	▲	4.9	—
Children in Single-Parent Households	17%	—	26%	—	25%	—
Social Associations	8.9	—	8.1	—	9.1	▲
Injury Deaths	57	—	53	—	76	—

Physical Environment

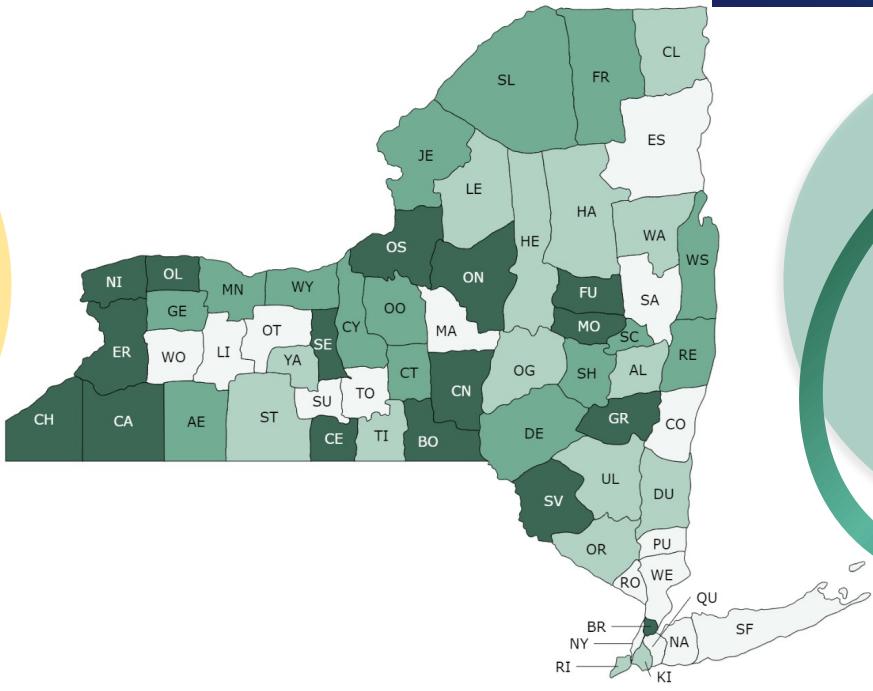
Air Pollution - Particulate Matter	6.5	▲	6.9	—	7.4	▼
Drinking Water Violations	Yes	—	—	—	—	—
Severe Housing Problems	12%	—	23%	—	17%	—
Driving Alone to Work	78%	▼	51%	▼	73%	▼
Long Commute - Driving Alone	39%	—	39%	—	37%	—

Key: ▲ decrease since 2022 ▼ increase since 2022 — no change since 2022

* <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/health-data/new-york/madison?year=2023>

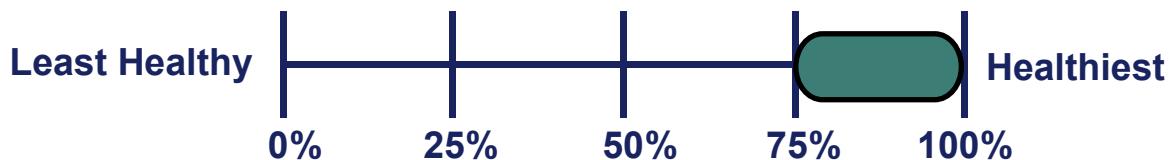
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Healthiest County in New York State



Health Outcome Ranks

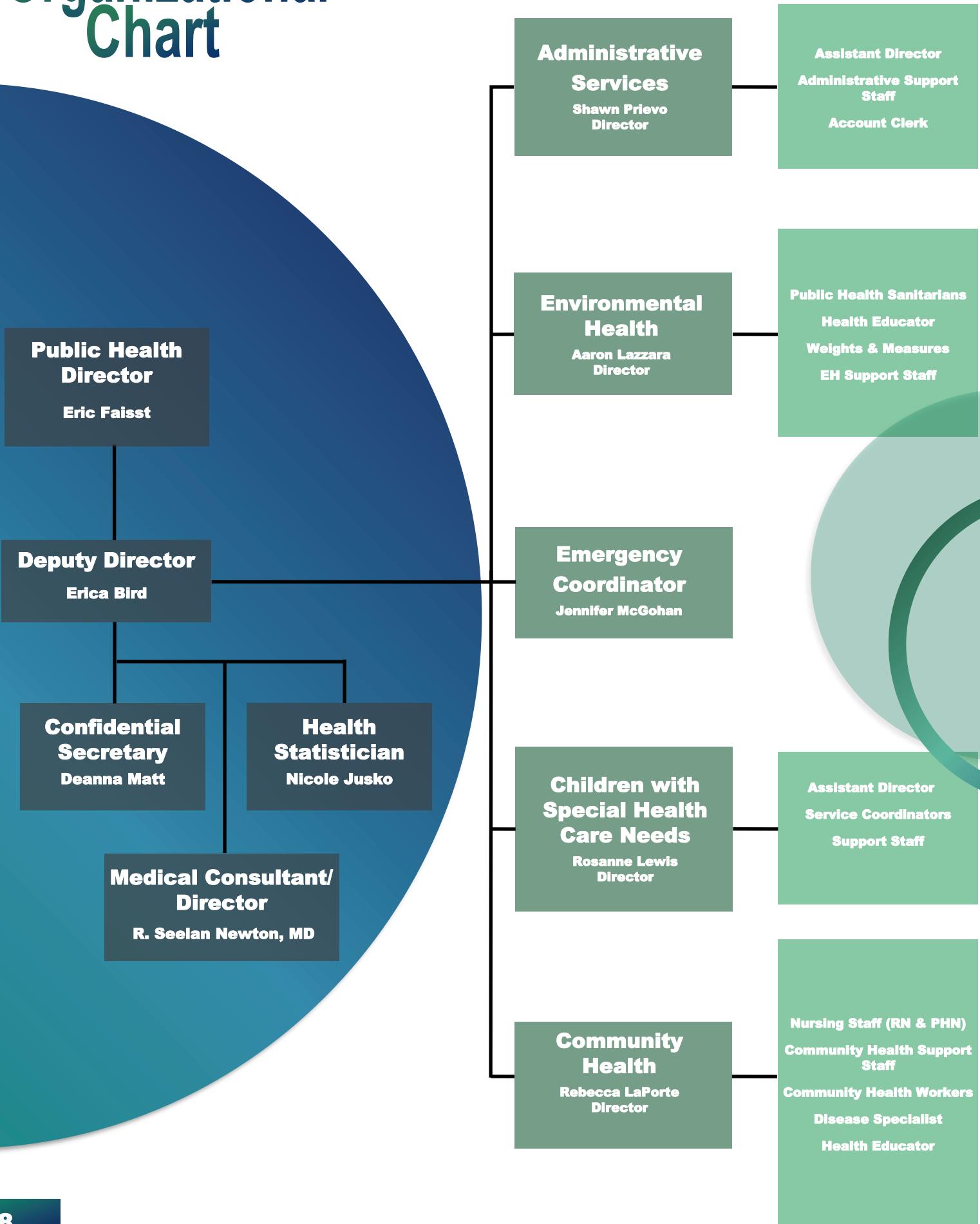
Madison is ranked among the healthiest
Counties in New York - in the Highest 75%-100% range



“Health Outcomes tell us how long people live on average within a community, and how much physical and mental health people experience in a community while they are alive.” *

“Many things influence how well and how long we live. Health Factors represent those things we can improve to live longer and healthier lives. They are indicators of the future health of our communities.” *

Organizational Chart



Leadership

County Leaders

Board of Supervisors, Chairman	John Becker
County Administrator	Mark Scimone

Health & Human Services Committee

Chair	Mary Cavanagh— <i>City of Oneida</i>
Vice-Chair	Brandee Dubois— <i>City of Oneida</i>

Committee Members	Alex Stepanski— <i>Town of Stockbridge</i>
	Loren Corbin— <i>Town of Brookfield</i>
	Dave Jones— <i>Town of Fenn</i>

Board of Health

President	John Endres, <i>DVM</i>
Vice President	Wendy Cary, <i>City of Oneida</i>
Committee Members	Rachel Elder, <i>MD</i>
	Gerry Edwards, <i>MD</i>
	Kurt Gormley, <i>DDS</i>
	Jennifer Meyers, <i>MD</i>
	Marla Velky-Reger, <i>LCSW-R</i>
Board of Supervisors	Mary Cavanagh
Medical Director	R. Seelan Newton, <i>MD</i>



Madison County Public Health

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