Mission: The Mission of the Ross County Board of Health and the Ross County Health District is to protect the physical and environmental health and wellness of the citizens of Chillicothe and Ross County; and to promote healthy behaviors and practices through education, partnerships, outreach, and services.
A Message from the Leadership Team:

Every year at this time, the Ross County Health District leadership team takes time to reflect on the previous year’s success and challenges. The collaboration with the Partners For A Healthier Ross County on the completion of a Community Health Assessment (CHA) and the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) represent two major accomplishments of 2016. These documents are cornerstones of health district accreditation and will drive strategic priorities in the coming years. If you are interested in viewing the reports, they can be viewed on our website at www.rosscountyhealth.org.

The defeat of the levy at the end of 2016 represents the most significant challenge the health district has faced in recent memory. The agency was forced to reorganize and look for efficiencies in every corner of the operation. Our employees have responded by taking on additional responsibilities and by working tirelessly to maintain the many services the community depends on. Because of this hard work and dedication, the health district is in position to restore lost programs and to lead public health in Ross County into the future.

Earning National Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board will be a priority heading into 2017 as we commit to demonstrating effective use of community resources and developing a culture of quality in all phases of our operation. We invite you to read on to gain a better understanding of the many ways your health district is striving to improve the health of all Ross County citizens.

Division Directors
Kathy Wakefield, RN, WHNP-BC, Director of Nursing/Community Health
Ben Avery, RS/REHS, Director of Environmental Health
Wanda Whetsel, RN, Director of Home Health
Adam Dyer, Chief Fiscal Officer
Rami Yoakum, Director of Communications

Ross County Board of Health 2016

Board of Health member appointments: Four are appointed by the Ross County District Advisory Council (DAC); three are appointed by the City of Chillicothe; and one is a member of, and appointed by, the Ross County Licensing Council. One board member must be a physician. Board members serve alternating four year terms.

Standing L-R: Thom Hamman (DAC appointee); Gary Prater, Vice President (Licensing Council); Chuck Halm, Board President (City); Ben Daughters (City)

Seated L-R: Mike Holdren (DAC); Jean Malone (DAC); Dr. David McKell (City); Dianna Gray (DAC)
PUBLIC HEALTH is about people! As defined by the CDC Foundation: Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention and detection and control of infectious diseases. Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world.

While the Ross County Health District is the public health agency in Ross County, our public health “system” includes many others - both public and private entities - that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services in our community. In one way or another, our local public health system includes or can include: local and state public health agencies; healthcare providers (hospitals/physicians); public safety agencies; human services and charitable agencies; education and youth development organizations; recreation and arts organizations; economic and environmental agencies.

Finally, there are Ten Essential Public Health Services that those agencies involved in our public health system should be practicing and ensuring in Ross County.

1. **MONITOR** health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. **DIAGNOSE AND INVESTIGATE** health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. **INFORM, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER** people about health issues.
4. **MOBILIZE** community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. **DEVELOP** policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. **ENFORCE** laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. **LINK** people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. **ASSURE** competent public and personal health care workforce.
9. **EVALUATE** effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. **RESEARCH** for new insights and innovate solutions to health problems.
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

ROLE: Educate the public, industry, and policy makers concerning Environmental Health (EH) risk identification and prevention; implement and enforce EH laws, regulations, and policy; collect and evaluate data on EH issues; respond to public health emergencies.

VALUE: Empower public, industry and policy makers to make informed decisions and take action to improve EH conditions in the community. Identify emerging EH threats and provide low cost EH services thus reducing the risk of sickness and disease due to environmental factors.

MANDATED PROGRAMS & ASSOCIATED CODES: Private Water Systems, Water Wells (ORC 3701.344 OAC 3701-28); Camps, RV Parks (ORC 3729 & 3733, OAC 3701-25, 26, 27, & 4781); Food Service Operations/Restaurants (OAC 3701-21); Retail Food Establishments (OAC901:3-4); Farm Markets (OAC 901:3-6); Food Safety Code (ORC 3717, OAC 3717-1); Household Sewage Systems/Septic (ORC 3718 & 3709.091, OAC 3701-29); Nuisances (ORC 3707.01 & .02, 3709.21); Order Violations/Penalties (ORC 3707.48 & .99); Schools (ORC 3707.03 & 3707.26); Tattoos & Body Piercing (ORC 3730, OAC 3701-9); Smoking Enforcement (ORC 3794, OAC 3701-52); Pools (OAC 3701.31); Rabies (ORE 955.26); Commercial Plumbing (OAC 104.2.3).

Sanitarian, Tyler Gillenwater, SIT, performing a routine inspection of a licensed mobile unit at the 2016 Ross County Fair. In addition to the approximately 350 licensed Food Service Operations and Retail Food Establishments, the Health District inspects all Temporary, Seasonal and Mobile units at all festivals and events in Ross County. In total, 1004 food inspections were completed in 2016.

Sanitarians Logan Calhoun, RS (left) and Ben Avery, RS (right) inspecting mosquito traps as part of the Environmental Health Division’s mosquito surveillance and control program. This program was funded by the 2016 OEPA Mosquito Control Grant. The division anticipates continuing the grant in 2017.

## 2016 Environmental Health Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political Subdivision</th>
<th>Sewage Inspections/Permits</th>
<th>Sewage Aeration Inspections</th>
<th>Sewage Lot Split Inspection</th>
<th>Sewage Point of Sale Inspections</th>
<th>Well Inspects/Permits</th>
<th>Plumbing Commercial Inspections/Permits</th>
<th>Nuisance Complaints</th>
<th>Animal Bites Inspections/Reports</th>
<th>Food Inspections/Licenses</th>
<th>Pool Inspections/Permits</th>
<th>Camp Inspections/Permits</th>
<th>Tattoo Inspected/Registered</th>
<th>All EH Visits</th>
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| **Total**             | **311/83**                  | **47**                      | **33**                      | **64**                          | **32/11**             | **176/56**                                | **534**             | **398/193**                   | **869/446**             | **151/28**              | **47/20**               | **19/16**                | **3521**
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

ROLE: The role of public health nursing is both broad and subtle. They focus on protection and prevention through population based programs, services, interventions, education, and leverage community partnerships as often as possible.

VALUE: The value of public health nursing in overall public health is considerable. Since its prevention efforts and education services are aimed at the entire community, not an individual, and there is often no direct cost for the services, public health nursing is a great value.

MANDATED PROGRAMS & ASSOCIATED CODES: Public health nursing carries out programs/services that are mandated by either the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) or the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). They include: Infectious disease surveillance and reporting (OAC 3701.3.02); Communicable disease control (ORC 3701.36.05); Maternity Unit Inspection (ORC 3711.10); Vaccinations/immunizations (ORC 3707.27); Tuberculosis control (3701.15 - mandated to county commissioners); Sudden Infant Death Syndrome counseling and support (ORC 313.121); Newborn screenings for children born at home (ORC 3701.55); Lead case management (ORC 3742.15 - mandated to state, contracted to locals); Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps (ORC 3701.023); Promoting and protecting health of the community (ORC 3701.36.04); Provide health education (ORC 3701.36.03); Provide at least one injury prevention (ORC 3701.36.074). Additionally, the state mandates to local health districts the staffing of Red Cross Shelters during emergencies, and in Ross County our Public Health Nursing Program offers a Family Planning Clinic.

Public health nurses (PHN) provide immunizations to adults and children in the Nurse of the Day Clinic and in clinics held at schools and throughout the city and townships. In 2016 there were 3,660 immunizations administered, including “flu” and required school “shots”. At the right, a public health nurse is checking vaccine from one of the two vaccine storage units housed at the health district. To maintain the potency and effectiveness of the vaccine, the health district uses monitoring equipment to ensure vaccine is safe and kept at the correct temperature at all times.

Baby and Me Tobacco Free is a new program provided by grant money. Public health nurses provide counseling support and resources to pregnant women with the goal that they will quit smoking and remain smoke-free throughout the postpartum period and beyond. The result is improved birth outcomes and long-term positive outcomes for women, children, and their families. At the left, a public health nurse checks on a young mother’s progress toward her goal to become tobacco free.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communicable Diseases Reported and Investigated</th>
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<tr>
<td>Campylobacter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chlamydia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cryptosporidiosis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dengue</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. coli other (STEC)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giardiasis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonorrhea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haemophilis influenzae</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
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<td>Influenza-Hospitalized</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legionellosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listeriosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyme Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meningitis, Aseptic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mumps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mycobacterial, other than TB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pertussis (Whooping Cough)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salmonellosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shigellosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spotted Fever Rickettiosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strep Group A, Invasive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Streptococcus pneumoniae</td>
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<tr>
<td>Syphilis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Varicella</td>
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<table>
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<th>Public Health Services</th>
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<td>Immunizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pregnancy Tests</td>
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<td>TB Mantoux Tests</td>
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<td>“Flu Shots”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contraceptive Surveillance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blood Lead Testing</td>
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<td>Blood Pressure</td>
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<td>Family Planning Clinic Visits</td>
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<td>STD Clinic Visits</td>
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<tr>
<td>School and Work Physicals</td>
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<td>Volunteer Fireman Physicals</td>
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**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**VITAL STATISTICS**

The recording and keeping of birth and death records for Ross County by the Ross County Health District is mandated by the Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 3705. Certified copies of all births and deaths that occur in Ross County (including the City of Chillicothe) are available in our Vital Statistics Office (740.779.9630). ORC 307.621 and 307.622 require the local health districts to convene a Child Fatality Review Board each year. In 2016 the board reviewed 5 deaths for children younger than 18 years.

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<th>Total Births</th>
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<td>Boys</td>
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<td>Girls</td>
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<td>Home Births</td>
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<td>Bainbridge Birthing Center</td>
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**Range of death in decades/years**

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<th>Birth - 29 = 28</th>
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<td>30-39 = 48</td>
<td>70-79 = 174</td>
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<td>40-49 = 40</td>
<td>80-89 = 229</td>
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<td>50-59 = 106</td>
<td>90-102 = 96</td>
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**Total Deaths**

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<td>Male</td>
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<td>Black</td>
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**Leading Causes**

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<td>Heart Disease</td>
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<td>Failure to Thrive</td>
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<td>Cancer (Lung)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probably</td>
<td>315</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**HOME HEALTH**

A program of the Ross County Health District since 1966, Ross County Home Health was the first home health agency in Ross County. Accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, Ross County Home Health offers skilled nursing and home health aide services, as well as physical, occupational, and speech therapy. Their services are available to all age groups. All new employees receive competency testing, as do all direct care staff (annually). Ross County Home Health is rated highly as a “Three Star” agency on Medicare’s consumer compare website (www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare). Ross County Home Health can be reached at 740.775.1114.

**Number of Agency Visits 2016**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid</td>
<td>23,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASSPORT</td>
<td>5,555</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicare</td>
<td>3,874</td>
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<td>Private Ins.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Private Pay</td>
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<td>Workers Comp</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Total Visits</td>
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**Top 5 Diagnosis**

<p>| |</p>
<table>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wounds/Ulcers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. WIC helps income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, women who recently had a baby, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition. The program improves pregnancy outcomes by providing or referring to support services necessary for full-term pregnancies; reduces infant mortality by reducing the incidence of low birth weight (infants under 5 ½ pounds are at greater risk of breathing problems, brain injuries and physical abnormalities), and provides infants and children with a healthy start in life by improving poor or inadequate diets. In 2016 WIC averaged a monthly case load of 2,850 clients served (Ross/Pickaway combined).

Help Me Grow
Help Me Grow provides two main services: The Home Visiting program provides expectant or new parents with the information, support and encouragement they need through a voluntary, high-quality home visiting service. It aims to educate at-risk parents with the resources to understand and capitalize on the optimal early years of a child’s life. Second, Ohio’s Part C/Early Intervention system aims to identify and serve children under the age of three with developmental delays and disabilities, as provided for under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The Help Me Grow program communicates with parents, doctors, hospitals, child care providers and other community agencies to identify children with existing developmental delays, or those with medical diagnoses with a high probability of delay. In 2016 HMG car seat technicians checked 34 already installed car seats and found a misuse rate of 65%. Also, 48 car seats were distributed/installed for WIC eligible clients through the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program.

Southern Ohio Women’s Cancer Project
Assisting uninsured and income eligible women ages 40-60 in finding access to mammography services and to pap testing. Serving Ross, Pike, Jackson, Vinton, Highland, Gallia, Scioto, Lawrence, Adams, and Brown counties.

Project D.A.W.N.
Project D.A.W.N. (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone) is an injury prevention program that offers education and support to those who fear the opioid overdose of a loved one. Staff also educates local first responders on the use of naloxone. As required by House Bill 64 (HB64), the Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) committed money to each county based on population, (Ross County’s base $2,878.00). These funds were only assigned to health departments with terminal distributor licenses to dispense Naloxone/Narcan to local law enforcement, emergency personnel and first responders as required by HB64.

Baby and Me, Tobacco Free
Baby and Me, Tobacco Free is a smoking cessation program created to reduce the burden of tobacco use on the pregnant and post-partum population, due to the fact that women who quit smoking are less likely to have premature and low-birth weight babies. Likewise, the program also strives to reduce the damaging effects of secondhand smoke on these children.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)
PHEP grant supports the following health district tasks: emergency response planning; community preparedness activities and outreach; and local partnerships with agencies in Chillicothe, Ross County, and Southern Ohio. The PHEP grant also supports public information activities, to include traditional and social media.
# Administrative Services

## Financial Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vital Statistics</td>
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<tr>
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<td>State Subsidy</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringes</td>
<td>111,494.86</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>1,317,594.42</td>
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<td>Camps</td>
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<td>Food Service</td>
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<td>Pools</td>
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<td>Sewage</td>
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<td>Mosquito Control Grant</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>Public Health</td>
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<td>Flu</td>
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<tr>
<td>TB</td>
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<td>BCMH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurse of the Day Clinic</td>
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<td>Family Planning/STD Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vivitrol</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>730,604.24</td>
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## Administrative Services

### Financial Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Home Health</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>2,469,960.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>1,167,494.86</td>
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<td>424,872.58</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>2,456,768.58</td>
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<td><strong>Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC)</strong></td>
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<td>66,215.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>24,129.33</td>
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<td>Fringes</td>
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<td>7,334.73</td>
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<td>16,623.97</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>48,088.03</td>
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<td><strong>Grants</strong></td>
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<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>Fringes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>1,139,929.51</td>
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### Graphs

- **Revenue Pie Chart**
  - Levy
  - Fees
  - Grant Revenue
  - MAC
  - State Subsidy/Other

- **Expenses Pie Chart**
  - Salaries
  - Fringes
  - Operating

---

*Note: Further analysis and details not shown in the image.*
Ross County is a rural county, located in South Central Ohio, in the Appalachian Region of Ohio and has a 2016 population estimate of 77,170. The City of Chillicothe is the county seat and has a population of 21,901. Villages include Adelphi, Bainbridge, Clarksburg, Frankfort, Kingston, and South Salem. There are 16 townships: Buckskin, Colerain, Concord, Deerfield, Franklin, Green, Harrison, Huntington, Jefferson, Liberty, Paint, Paxton, Scioto, Springfield, Twin, and Union. There are seven public school districts: Adena Local; Chillicothe City; Huntington Local; Paint Valley Local; Southeastern Local; Unioto Local; and Zane Trace Local. There is one regional hospital, Adena Regional Medical Center; Veterans Affairs Medical Center, a large federal facility that serves the entire region; and Hopewell Health, a rural health center. The Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health Center provides mental health services and drug addiction treatment.

### Quick Facts 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two or more races</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaskan Native</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign born 2011-2014</td>
<td>.09%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age under 5 years</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age under 18 years</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age over 65 years</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
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<td>Veterans 2011-2015</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Spoken</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>97.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other spoken at home</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education/Income</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school graduation rate</td>
<td>84.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per capita income</td>
<td>$21,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Families below poverty rate</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children living in poverty</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All cancers 2008-2012</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lung/bronchus</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast (female)</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colon/rectum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prostate</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Life</th>
<th>Years</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>72.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>71.74</td>
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