Florida Department of Health in Seminole County

Florida HEALTH Seminole County

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES REPORT



THE HEALTH OFFICER'S PERSPECTIVE

I am honored to have been appointed as the Administrator and Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County (DOH-Seminole) in August of 2023. I previously served as the Assistant Director at the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County. Prior to that role, I've worked as a program evaluator, grant reviewer, data analyst, strategic planner, and environmental health specialist. I also spent several years as an adjunct professor in Bethune-Cookman University's College of Health Sciences.

I am thrilled to be starting a new adventure here in Seminole County. In just a short amount of time it has become clear to me that a strong culture of teamwork, collaboration, and community exist here. I'm looking forward to leading initiatives that continue to protect, promote, and improve the health of all Seminole County residents and visitors.

This two-year health report notes many DOH-Seminole accomplishments and community partnerships which are essential to implementing public health initiatives and are the foundation of ensuring the health of our communities. The publication showcases program highlights, initiatives, outreach events and data on services provided in 2022 and 2023.

At DOH-Seminole, we are here to serve and provide resources to help you reach your health goals.

–Ethan Johnson, DrPH, MPH Health Officer and Administrator



Executive Leadership Team

Clockwise

Donna Walsh, MPA, BSN, RN Health Officer and Administrator

Sarah A. Wright, MPH, BSN, RN Executive Community Health Nursing Director

Thomas Kellis, FCCM
Administrative Services Director

Ana Scuteri, MPHAssistant County Health Department
Director

Meena Joseph, MD Medical Director

Shellon Fortune, MBAMS Human Resources Liaison



OUR VALUES (ICARE)

Innovation
Collaboration
Accountability
Responsiveness
Excellence

OUR FOUNDATION

Quality health care, education, safety, disease prevention, and community partnerships serve as the foundation for the services provided through the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County. With a focus on health access and quality, using customer feedback and evidence-based practices, we accomplish our mission to protect, promote, and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts.

Health for All is Our Vision

We want to be part of the solution. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps examines the issues and opportunities to ensure economic security and health for all. Community Health Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan helps us bring people together to look at the many factors that influence health, select strategies that can improve health for all, and make changes that will have a lasting impact.

	2022	2023	TOTAL*
Clients Served	13,083	12,012	22,275
Visits	21,879	23,346	45,225
Services	82,371	91,579	173,950
Clinical Interns	37 APRNs	56 APRNs	93 APRNs

^{*}Please note this is only HMS data and does not include WIC, Vitals, or EPH.

Additionally, in 2022-2023, we provided internship to 68 ECPI Students, 23 from Rasmussen College and 7 from Seminole State College.

SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Breast and Cervical Cancer

The Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (BCCP) in Seminole County provides clinical breast examinations, screenings, diagnostic mammogram referrals, and pap smears/HPV screenings to women 50-64 years of age who are uninsured Florida residents in Seminole, Orange, Lake, and Osceola counties. These women must meet the financial requirement of being at of over 200% of the federal poverty level.



SCREENINGS CONDUCTED

2022

137 mammograms

33 Pap smears

2023

233 mammograms

56 Pap smears

DOH-Seminole Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program hosted the Breast Cancer Survivor's Lunch and Lean "After the Shock" on October 20, 2022. Nine breast cancer survivors and thrivers shared the aftershock experience when given their breast cancer diagnosis. Speakers encouraged attendees to recieve routine mammograms for early detection.

Community Integrated Mobile Health Services

The Community Integrated Mobile Health Services Program provided community-based health screening, testing, education, and referrals to populations with limited access to care in Seminole County.

These services included vaccinations, health screenings and various individualized information and referral services. To ensure services are available to recipients most in need, DOH-Seminole partners with organizations such as Shepherd's Hope, Remington Inn, Grace & Grits, Rescue Outreach Mission, Goodwill Industries, Recovery House, WeFam, and United Medical Social Services (UMSS).

2022

2,950 services provided

2023

3,534 services provided



Dental Care

The Dental Care Program provides exams, x-rays, nutritional and oral health education, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings, and simple extractions.

The active School Based Sealant
Program serves Title 1 schools in
Seminole County. The Dental Hygienist
provides preventive services including
screenings, oral hygiene education and
fluoride varnishes and sealants utilizing
portable equipment. Seminole County
Government provides financial support
to the program for the non-Medicaid
clients.

DENTAL CARE PROGRAM SERVICES PROVIDED

2022

1,831 exams

1,528 cleanings

1,514 fluoride treatments

1,514 sealants in fixed clinic

1,514 oral health education

2023

2,360 exams

1,688 cleanings

1.754 fluoride treatments

2,224 sealants

1,768 oral health education

1,195 restorations (fillings)

80 extractions

2,980 radiographs

14 scaling inflamed-full mouth



Liberty Dental Plan of Florida Inc. presented DOH-Seminole Dental Care Program in 2023 the Platinum Practice in recognition of their outstanding quality performance and commitment to comprehensive patient care service and support to Liberty's valued members.

SCHOOL BASED SEALANT PROGRAM (SBSP)

	2022	2023
Children Seen	649	331
Screenings	649	331
Fluoride Treatments	646	320
Oral Health Education	651	328
Sealants	1,889	874
Prophylaxis (cleaning)	575	293

Diabetes Programs

The Diabetes Prevention Program serves individuals who are at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes with free screenings and facilitated education sessions covering topics such as healthy eating, maintaining an active lifestyle, food tracking, risk reduction and problem solving.

Diabetes self-management education was offered for individuals that have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. The program includes up to 8 hours of individualized education by our DSME coordinator based on a curriculum developed by the American Association of Diabetes Educators. The goal is to equip individuals with the knowledge necessary to successfully manage their diabetes.

Funded by a Orlando Health Community Grant, the program screened 171 community members with either random blood glucose testing or A1c testing in 2022. In 2023, the program screened 1,175 community members.

All screened clients received diabetes information and were offered referrals to either our Diabetes Prevention Program or Diabetes Self-Management Education Program.

DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM

2022 2023

Participants 10 42

DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

2022 2023

Participants 11 43

Screenings 171 1,175



Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Program activities focus on prevention, preparedness, and education implemented through routine inspections, monitoring, and surveillance of conditions that may contribute to the occurrence or transmission of disease and issuing permits and licenses, enforcing statutes and codes, and responding to questions regarding environmental concerns. These programs monitor the health of the environment and ensure Seminole County residents can experience optimum health now and in generations to come.

The environmental health staff conducted water sampling of homes affected by Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. Staff sampled approximately 500 homes in flood damaged areas of the county. Sampling continued until the flood waters were no longer an impact to residents. Staff have also sampled private wells in response to 1,4 dioxane concerns in the Lake Mary and Sanford areas. The 1,4 dioxane is from the use of the chemical as a parts cleaner at a former Siemens plant located on Rinehart Road in Lake Mary. Approximately 30 private wells were sampled in 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTIONS

	2022	2023
Biomedical Waste	896	589
Body Piercing	9	13
Food Hygiene	84	115
Group Care Facilities	186	139
Limited Use Water	28	18
Migrant Labor Camps	0	2
Mobile Home Parks	17	13
OSTDS Operating	167	414
Swimming Pools	408	156
Tanning	14	4
Tattoo	42	75
Septic (OSTDS) Inspections	896	924
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	2,747	2,456

There were 13 sanitary nuisance complaints in 2022, and 12 in 2023.



Joyce Bittle, Environmental Specialist conducting well water sampling.

Epidemiology

The Epidemiology Program conducts disease surveillance and investigates suspected occurrences of infectious diseases and conditions reported from physician's offices, hospitals, and laboratories.

All practitioners, hospitals, and laboratories in Florida are required to notify the Florida Department of Health of diseases or conditions of public health significance under section 381.0031, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 64D-3, Florida Administrative Code. Reportable diseases fall under the following categories: vaccine preventable diseases, viral hepatitis, vector borne zoonoses, enteric infections and central nervous system diseases and bacteremias.

2022

52,792

reportable diseases

142

disease outbreaks

2023

11,108

reportable diseases

124

disease outbreaks

52,792 cases of reportable diseases and 142 disease outbreaks were reported. Most of the outbreaks were respiratory illnesses followed by respiratory gastrointestinal illness and then rash. The Epidemiology Program investigated 14,378 disease cases in 2022.

In 2023, 11,108 cases of reportable diseases and 124 disease outbreaks were reported. Most of the outbreaks were gastrointestinal illness followed by respiratory illnesses and then rash. The Epidemiology Program investigated 2,269 disease cases.

Florida Healthy Babies

Florida Department of Health's Florida Healthy Babies initiative is a state wide collaborative to positively influence health and reduce disparities in infant mortality. This project focuses on an approach to close the gap among Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic White infants.

Fiscal Year 2022–2023

- Provided eight safe sleep trainings to educate parents, community partners, and leaders on the benefits of safe sleep.
- Provided four media educational campaigns on healthy recipe for safe sleep, tobacco cessation, shaken baby syndrome, and breastfeeding.
- The team engaged in community presentations, meetings, and outreach events, to provide education and awareness on keeping babies safe and healthy.
- Spotlighted four local daycares for safe sleep and breastfeeding friendly policies.

On December 8, 2022, Florida Healthy Babies hosted the Dr. Seuss themed Count the Kicks Baby Shower. Education and resources on safe sleep, breastfeeding, tobacco cessation and count the kicks were provided to 18 expectant mothers in attendance.



Dr. Seuss Count the Kicks Baby Shower.

Hepatitis Program

A targeted community education program at DOH-Seminole, the Hepatitis Prevention Program provides adult hepatitis A and B vaccines, and screening and testing for hepatitis A, B, and C, and treatment referrals for those who test positive for hepatitis C.

HEPATITIS SERVICES PROVIDED

2022 2023

84 tests | 121 tests

336 immunizations 466 immunizations

HIV/AIDS Prevention

The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County offers PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) to anyone 18 or older with a non-reactive HIV Test. PrEP is a single pill taken once daily to prevent HIV infection if taken as directed.

PREP PROGRAM PROVIDED

2022

78 client referrals

43 clients enrolled in program

57 community outreach events attended

15 mobile unit outreaches attended to provide rapid testing

37 condom sites maintained

2023

103 client referrals

35 clients enrolled in program

8 community outreach events attended

60 mobile unit outreaches attended to provide rapid testing

56 condom sites maintained



In support of World of AIDS, the Specialty Care Program hosted an information table and performed rapid HIV testing at DOH-Seminole.



On February 21, 2023, PrEP staff attended the Safe Spring Break Event at Seminole State College in Oviedo to educate students on prevention of HIV and share resource information on having a safe spring break.

Immunization

The Immunization Program at the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County has vaccines available for 17 diseases, including polio, tetanus, and diphtheria. Vaccinations protect children from dangerous childhood diseases which can cause serious complications and adults from a variety of diseases as they travel in foreign countries.



Each year, from July 15 to August 15, thousands of K-12 students are provided back-to-school vaccinations. Other clients visit DOH-Seminole from across the U.S. and world-wide for immunizations.

VACCINATIONS PROVIDED

2022 2023

12,732 | 12,425

TRAVEL VACCINES PROVIDED

	2022	2023
Hepatitis A	42	18
Hepatitis B	57	56
Hepatitis A and B	33	44
IPV	26	75
Japanese Encephalitis	15	37
Typhoid Injectable	191	222
Yellow Fever	275	421
Rabies	122	95

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS ISSUED

2022 2023

595 642



Office of Health Promotion and Education

The Office of Health Promotion and Education (OHPE) promotes and coordinates community engagement and partnerships to offer chronic disease prevention, education and screenings, host health observance events, and assess community specific health needs to positively impact determinants of health, closing the gap on health disparities in Seminole County.

OUTREACH NUMBERS

2022 2023

54 outreach events

outreach events

The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County in partnership with the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) hosted a family health fest on September 17, 2022 at Fort Mellon Park in Sanford. Attendees enjoyed the fun-filled free event funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed). The family health fest raised awareness about taking care of one's physical needs and increasing resiliency in the face of adversity. Attendees also had the opportunity to obtain resources and information from vendors, complete health risk screenings, enjoy dance lessons, food tastings, exercise demos, children's activities, and games.

Spectrum News 13 news anchor Ybeth Bruzual was recognized during the festival for her contributions in health and wellness as part of the Hispanic Heritage Month 2022 celebration.





On April 3, 2023, during National Public Health Week, a ribbon cutting took place for the unveiling of Josh's Benches for Awareness to raise awareness about suicide prevention. Two benches were donated by the Jeno and Lois Paulucci Family Foundation to be visible for those who may be struggling or in crisis.

One Pill Campaign

DOH-Seminole is participated in the One Pill Campaign, funded by the Seminole County's Community Health Initiative. Seminole County paid for two of our vehicles to be wrapped with the One Pill Can Kill message along with vehicles from other agencies.



Office of Performance and Quality Improvement

The Office of Performance and Quality Improvement monitors the organization's performance management system including the key performance indicator snapshot and foundational organization documents including the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), strategic plan, workforce development plan, and quality improvement plan. The office is responsible for fostering a culture of quality improvement and innovation as well as to develop annual reports collecting and monitoring required documentation to satisfy the Public Health Accreditation Board standards and measures.



Group touring the InnoLab during its launch.

2022

The official launch of the Innovation Lab (InnoLab) took place on April 8, 2022, during National Public Health Week. Community partners toured the Innovation Lab and walking trail with wellness equipment soon to be installed. The InnoLab tour included an introduction to the methodologies used to host sessions. The Lab is now open to community partners to host brainstorming or action planning meetings.

A total of 17 DOH-Seminole staff participated in the Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt training on November 28–29, to gain knowledge, skills, and capabilities in guiding project identification, ensuring effective implementation, and thorough documentation.

2023

The 17 Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Certified trainers participated in the Lean Six Sigma Green Belt training in January 17-20 to gain insights into practical improvement and facilitation methods to help them lead a team towards improvement.

Three community dialogue sessions were facilitated in Sanford, Altamonte Springs, and Oviedo for residents and community leaders to learn about 2022 CHNA findings, provide feedback, and participate in a prioritization exercise to guide the Healthy Seminole Collaborative in identifying key focus areas for the upcoming 2023-2026 Community Health Improvement Plan.

Public Health Preparedness

DOH-Seminole's Public Health Preparedness Program is responsible for coordinating the county's public health and medical preparedness including response to emergencies and disasters, such as medical support to special needs shelters and mass distribution of medicine. Practicing and updating plans each year for natural and man-made disasters is essential for an adequate response during emergencies.

Preparedness was awarded the Project Public Health Ready recognition on January 20, 2023, Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) is a criteria-based training and recognition program created by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help local health departments develop core public health emergency preparedness competencies.

PPHR recognition last for five years and demonstrates to the emergency preparedness community that DOH-Seminole is ready to respond.

Exercises and Training

A 2022 hurricane exercise was hosted by Seminole County's Office of Emergency Management with over 100 participants from several agencies. Participants simulated response activities of a tropical event. Media was invited for a press conference during the exercise.

On June 22, 2023, special needs shelter exercise for all staff at the town hall meeting at Lake Mary Event Center. The training provided an overview of staff roles at the shelter during a hurricane response.



Shelter set up team during Hurricane Ian.



DOH-Seminole's Assistant Health Officer Ana Scuteri joined Alan Harris, Chief Administrator for the Office of Emergency Management and Matt Kinley, Seminole County Fire Department Chief, during the press conference to provide critical safety messages related to storms and how the agencies are preparing for the Hurricane Season.

Emergency Response

On September 28-29, 2022, Hurricane lan came through Seminole County leaving flooding throughout the county. DOH-Seminole staff responded and staffed the three special needs shelters and general population shelters. The Community Integrated Mobile Health Service, Office of Health Promotion and Education, and facilities unit continued to respond to community needs by meeting residents where they lived through coordinated outreached at FEMA locations. The teams responded in Geneva, Oviedo, Altamonte Springs, and Sanford. Clorox wipes, raincoats, water bottles, bug repellent spray, hand sanitizer, and information was provided.

Hurricane Nicole arrived November 9-10, 2022. Staff was activated to one opened special needs shelter, emergency operations center, and field operations center.

Refugee Health

The Refugee Health Program is federally funded and required for individuals with refugee status. The program serves refugees, political asylees, and parolees who have recently immigrated to the United States. The program provides an initial health history, mental health and physical assessments, conducts a comprehensive laboratory screening for communicable and chronic diseases, provides routine immunizations, and immigration form validations for those clients seeking to adjust their immigration status.

REFUGEE SERVICES PROVIDED

2023

2022

714 266

School Health Program

During the school year 2022–2023, the School Health Program and Seminole County Public School's (SCPS) screening teams collaborated to offer over 20,000 screening services to students encompassing vision, hearing, scoliosis, oral health, and growth and development. Over 1,800 students were referred for follow-up.

As part of the comprehensive school health approach, the School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC), met quarterly to share resources in the areas of student wellness, epilepsy, substance use prevention, pediatric infectious disease, youth mental health, oral health, and human trafficking, among others.

The SHAC is a collaboration between DOH-Seminole and SCPS, and includes over 30 active members representing 10 different components that impact school health, including school safety, mental and social health, physical environment, nutrition, physical activity, health services, community and family engagement, and health education.



Alice Gibson and Debbie Marhee engage youth participating at the DOH-Seminole Family Fun Festival in Ft. Mellon Park, Sanford.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Confidential services are provided to anyone who seeks care for the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). The STD program disease intervention specialists participate in education and community health activities throughout the year providing free testing and STD/HIV education. Collaborating across county borders, disease intervention specialists monitor the number of syphilis, HIV, gonorrhea, and chlamydia cases reported, and coordinate appropriate responses.

STD SERVICES		
Service clients	2022 1,550	2023 1,665
Services provided	7,572	8,468
HIV service clients	429	462
HIV services provided	5,239	5,681

Positive Youth Development

Thanks to funding from Seminole County Government and DOH-Seminole, our Positive Youth Development (PYD) Program served over 290 youth, grades 5 and above at over five different sites. PYD supports youth assets and competencies by delivering facilitated engaging workshops in a safe environment where youth can practice life skills, learn about themselves, have constructive conversations, and engage in reflection activities. The workshops address topics such as social media safety, understanding and managing emotions, communication, assertiveness, healthy relationships, understanding your skills, knowing your values, among others. Youth also have a chance to practices leadership and life skills through youth led community service learning activities.



December 2022: PYD youth at Boys and Girls Club in Oviedo worked with facilitator Debbie Marhee and B&G team to prepare and deliver holiday cards for seniors at a Senior Center.

Our youth facilitators hosted more than 140 workshops through the year with various collaborating sites, including 21st Century After School Program, Boys and Girls Clubs in Oviedo, Altamonte Springs, Sanford, and Juvenile Justice Center in Antioch. In addition, they partner with various community organizations including, Seminole Prevention Coalition, U.S. Army, Outreach Rescue Mission, Tobacco Free Partnership, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, and local veteran's posts and senior centers, for community service-learning projects. During school year 2022–2023, the youth contributed over 800 hours of combined community service-learning hours.

During pre and post surveys, youth shared positive gains in the areas of academic achievement, learning how to deal with challenges, and learning about themselves. They also shared the program helped them make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Tuberculosis

The Tuberculosis (TB) program provides skin testing, chest x-ray referrals, medications, and investigation of active cases. Other services include directly observed therapy, nurse case management and expert medical management for current cases, suspects of active TB disease and latent TB infection (LTBI).

There were six reported TB cases in 2022 and 12 in 2023 in Seminole County.



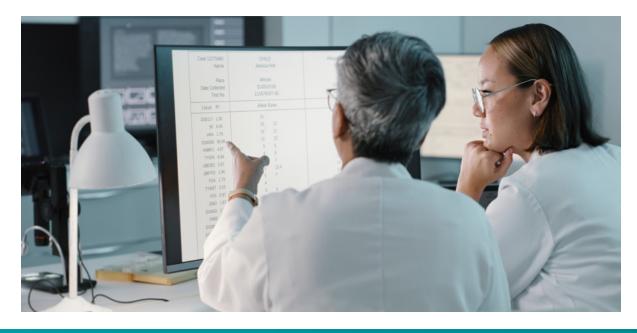
Staff working at the TB outreach event on March 25, 2022 at the Picnic Project.

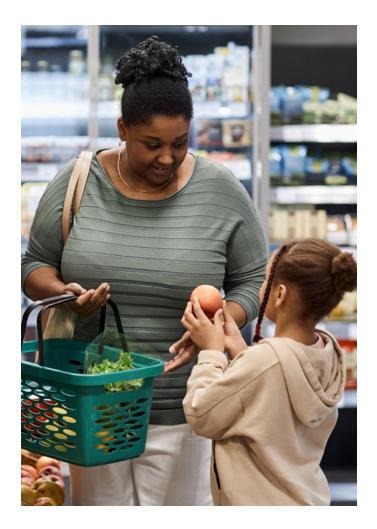
Vital Statistics

The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County's Vital Statistics Office consists of official records of birth, death, and fetal death. These records are essential for just administration of our law and for the protection of individual rights. In addition, the statistical data from these records are of great value to public health and other agencies.

The Office of Vital Statistics has continued the partnership with the Seminole County Tax Collector to issue certified copies of Florida birth certificates in participating offices.

	2022	2023	
Births	2,939	2,726	
Deaths	3,867	3,675	
Birth/Death Certificates	54,224	56,364	
Revenue	\$435,838	\$454,817	
Clients Served	12,750	13,152	





FALLING BREATFEDING Making a difference Comment of American Commen

World Breastfeeding Week celebration during Back to School Expo at the Altamonte Mall.

Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC)

WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for Woman, Infants, and Children. It provides services at no cost that include: healthy foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and referrals for health care and community services.

DOH-Seminole WIC has locations in Sanford and Casselberry.

WIC SERVICES		
	2022	2023
Eligible population served	56.1%	63.9%
Clients served	5,723	5,715

Federal Fiscal Year 2022

WIC served 56.1% of the eligible population and provided 102,211 services to the 5,723 clients that participated in the program.

WIC increased breastfeeding initiation rates from 87.1% to 87.24%, decreased exclusive breastfeeding at 26 weeks from 19.5% to 18.54%; and breastfeeding at 26 weeks from 39.3% to 38.70%, December 2021–December 2022.

In Federal Fiscal Year 2023

Participation increased by 7.8% to 63.9% of the eligible population served, 96,039 services provided to 5,715 clients participating in the program.

WIC breastfeeding initiation rates decreased from 87.24% to 85.47%, increased exclusive breastfeeding at 26 weeks from 18.54% to 25.26%; and breastfeeding at 26 weeks from 38.70% to 47.37%. December 2022–September 2023.

The goal of increasing the participation rate by 1%, with an increase of 4.48% above the baseline in March 2023 was surpassed.

SUPPORT THROUGH GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Community Outreach and Services

\$100,000 10/21-9/22

\$100,000

10/22-9/23

Funded by Seminole County Government

Dental Care Program

\$20,000

10/21-9/22

\$20,000

10/22-9/23

Funded by Seminole County Government

Nutritional Education Program

\$60,000

10/22-9/23

Funded by Seminole County Government

Pediatric Asthma

\$60,000

9/21-10/22

\$60,000

9/22-8/23

Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Closing the Gap

\$145,000

7/21-6/22

\$164,000

7/22-6/23

Funded by the Florida Department of Health





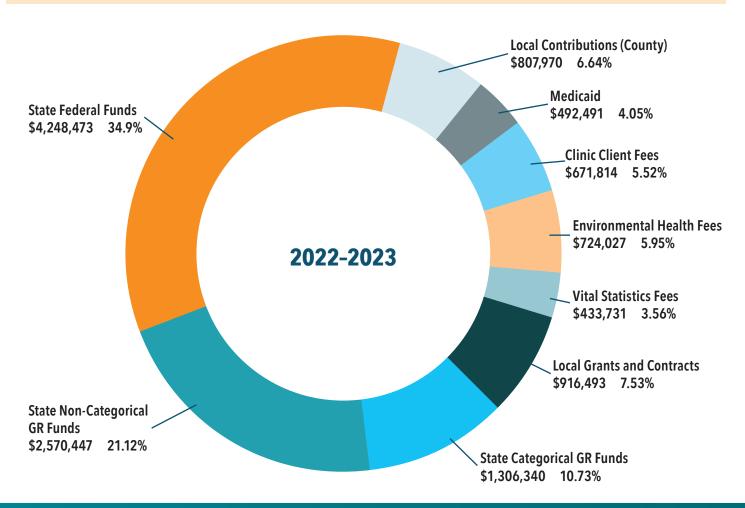




Orlando Health Community Benefits Program presented a \$25,000 grant check to the Community Integrated Mobile Health Services for elder fall prevention and a \$25,000 grant check to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program for breast education, screening, and testing.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Highlights	2021–2022		2022–2023	
State Categorical GR Funds	\$1,147,716	8.31%	\$1,306,340	10.73%
State Non-Categorical GR Funds	\$2,188,667	15.86%	\$2,570,447	21.12%
State Federal Funds	\$6,814,524	49.37%	\$4,248,473	34.90%
Local Contributions (County)	\$807,970	5.85%	\$807,970	6.64%
Medicaid	\$470,285	3.41%	\$492,491	4.05%
Clinic Client Fees	\$691,931	5.01%	\$671,814	5.52%
Environmental Health Fees	\$738,457	5.35%	\$724,027	5.95%
Vital Statistics Fees	\$388,808	2.82%	\$433,731	3.56%
Local Grants and Contracts	\$555,513	4.02%	\$916,493	7.53%
TOTAL	\$13,803,871	100%	\$12,171,786	100%



SUCCESSES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2022

On January 24, Donna Walsh and the DOH-Seminole team was recognized with a proclamation by the city of Winter Springs during their Commission meeting. The recognition was an expression of gratitude for DOH-Seminole's leadership, support, and guidance while helping the city navigate the ongoing pandemic.



On January 25, Connie Thomas was recognized as an outstanding leader alongside Janelle Dunn from True Health during the Seminole County's Commission meeting and in recognition of Black History Month.



On February 10, Donna Walsh, Zeenat Rahman, Venise White and Camie Lewis attended the board appreciation dinner hosted by the city of Oviedo at the Oviedo Cultural Center. This was their first annual appreciation event to recognize organizations who partnered with the community groups, and devoted their time and services along with the mayor, staff and commissioners. DOH- Seminole staff was recognized for their continued support and participation in ION (Improving Oviedo Neighborhood) activities.

Keisha Nauth and Ethel Smith were accepted in the 2022-23 Research Excellence Institute, Cohort 7. This revered program enhanced their research ability, data analysis and program evaluation in addition to collaboration development within their respective field.

The Research Excellence Initiative is an established year-long education program for Florida Department of Health professionals conducting research in epidemiology, quality improvement projects, and/or program evaluation in public health.

Epidemiology Program staff presented their projects at the 2022 CSTE conference in June in Louisville, Kentucky.

Tyler Weston's Project: Pertussis and Varicella Incidence and Vaccination Trends in Florida, 2015-2020

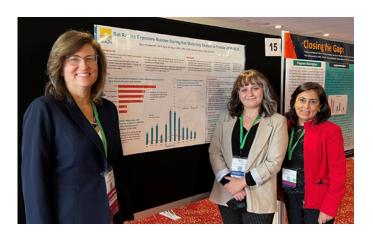
Taylor Kwiatkowski's Project: Bat Rabies Exposure Burden during Bat Maternity Season in Florida, 2016-2020



Trust for America's Health extended their congratulations to DOH-Seminole for becoming an Advanced Age Friendly Public Health System (AFPHS). This recognition is based on your commitment to the health and well being of the older adults in Seminole County, as demonstrated by the completion of the AFPHS action plan and based on the AFPHS 6Cs Framework.



On June 9, 2022, Ethel Smith and Claudia Tejada presented at the 2022 Florida Chronic Disease Prevention Conference. The theme of the conference was Thrive Through Health. Ethel presented about whole person care and the Healthiest Weight Florida Program. Claudia presented about addressing Social Determinants of Health and how overall health is woven into all aspects of DOH-Seminole.



Florida Epidemic Intelligence Service Fellow Taylor Kwiatkowski presented a poster on Bat Rabies Exposure Burden During Bat Maternity Season in Florida, 2016-2020 during the 2022 National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) 360 Conference in Atlanta. Donna Walsh and Ana Scuteri were also in attendance. On August 23, Donna Walsh, Ana Scuteri, Sarah Wright, and Samantha King joined Seminole County Emergency Management to receive a National Preparedness Month proclamation and recognition during the Seminole County Commission meeting.



Donna Walsh, Ana Scuteri, Claudia Tejada, and Ajayi Pickeringhaynes attended the American Public Health Association's annual meeting and expo in Boston from November 6–9. Claudia and Ajayi presented a poster on Public Health is Where We Are Enlivening and Enlightening in Public Health Workforce-National Public Health Week 2022.



Sarah Wright received a 5–9 year director of nursing award during the Statewide Director of Nursing Leadership Meeting from November 28-December 1 at the Orlando Lake Mary Marriott. Sarah already has 9.5 years as our director of nursing.



2023

Patricia Mondragon, Ana Scuteri, and Donna Walsh were recognized for their dedicated service and commitment to achieving the national standards of public health department performance as part of Florida's integrated local public health department system.





Ana Scuteri was recognized on Wednesday, April 5 as the 2023 Florida Outstanding Woman in Public Health during the University of South Florida's (USF) College of Public Health's 2023 National Public Health Week annual awards ceremony. Ana is pictured below with USF School of Public Health Dean Dr. Donna Petersen and DOH-Seminole colleagues.



On April 3, DOH-Seminole hosted the Josh's Benches for Awareness ribbon-cutting celebration. The celebration raised awareness about suicide prevention. Josh's Benchs for Awareness is a non-profit organization that focuses on suicide prevention awareness by providing benches, with the suicide hotline number, placed in high traffic areas. The Jeno & Lois Paulucci Family Foundation donated for two benches to be in Seminole County. Seminole County Government offered them to DOH-Seminole. The five foot long bench is made of recycled plastic. For every bench sold, 540 milk jugs are kept out of landfills.

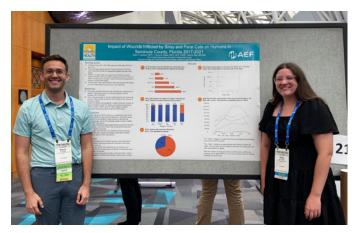


Donna Walsh, Samantha King, and Ana Scuteri received a NACCHO award for the Public Health Ready recognition during the NACCHO conference in Atlanta.

Donna Walsh was recognized as the 2023 Leadership Legend on May 19 during the Leadership Seminole 2023 community leadership celebration.



On June 24–29, Kala Hubbard, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Applied Epidemiology Fellow and Kevin Baker, epidemiology manager, attended the CSTE 2023 annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, where Kala's abstract was selected to be displayed as a poster presentation for the conference.



Enid Santiago from the Community Integrated Mobile Health Services Program was recognized as an Asthma Champion by the Florida Asthma Coalition during their 2023 summit.



Zeenat Rahman, in DOH-Seminole's Office of Health Promotion and Education, presented a poster titled Addressing Food Insecurity through Community Gardens, at NACCHO 360 in Denver on July 11.





DOH-Seminole OHPE team attended the 2023 NACCHO 360 Conference in Denver to receive a "Promising Practice Award" for the educational game they created called Equi-teaser: A Card Game to Demonstrate Equity. The game was recognized as an "outstanding and innovative program" that contributes to local public health practice.

The national NACCHO 360 conference was held on July 10-13, 2023. DOH-Seminole had strong representation at the conference. Zeenat Rahman was a presenter, Claudia Tejada received the Promising Practice Award and Paula Koehler received a full scholarship from NACCHO to attend the conference.



Florida Department of Health in Seminole County

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