

**FORT LEE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

It is the mission of the Board of Health and its staff to serve as a resource intended to prevent, promote, protect and meet the multitude of public health related needs of the community.

The following is a summary of the programs and inspection activities implemented and conducted by the Board of Health and its staff for the 2017 fiscal year (January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017).

BOARD OF HEALTH

COUNCIL LIAISON

Ila Kasofsky

BOARD MEMBERS

Harris Levine, DDS- President
Lawrence Altman, DC-Vice-President
Ethel Blumenthal
Jennie Chong, RPh (appointed June 2017)
Paul Friedman, DMD
Gerald Lee, MD
Teresa Morgillo (resigned May 2017)
John Sinisi

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Stephen S. Wielkocz, Health Officer
Maryann J. Colenda, MD
Aben Lee, Public Health Nurse Supervisor
Erin DePalma, PREHS
Sae Rom Cho, REHS
John Kang, REHS
Shelby Meyers, REHS (hired January 2017)
Mary Lazzaro, Registrar
Heather Rumi, Deputy Registrar (resigned July 2017)
Mimi Rosenbluth, Deputy Registrar
Julie Liapes, Clerk/Typist (hired October 2017)

During the calendar year 2017, The Fort Lee Health Department continued to provide a wide variety of services to borough residents. Through various preventive screening programs, issuance of vital statistics documents, investigation of citizen complaints, inspection activities, etc., the Health Department had contact with a large segment of the borough population.

The Health Department continued to increase the level of publicity and public awareness towards state mandated programs and services offered to residents. Press releases and pictures were taken of various programs and screenings offered at the Health Department and Community Center and submitted to The Bergen Record.

The environmental health aspect of the department continued to be active by conducting 626 detailed Chapter 24 of the State Sanitary Code food safety related inspections. 882 Citizen Complaints were received and investigated. 51 Court summonses were issued with fines issued.

The Public Health Nursing Staff continued to provide the residents with numerous preventative health screening programs. During the health fair 39 residents participated in Blood Screenings, 43 residents participated in the Annual Skin Screening Program, and 286 residents were vaccinated against the seasonal influenza virus. 174 blood pressures were taken during the walk-in blood pressure program-Adult Health Conference held on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

The 2017 calendar year marked the 23rd Annual Health Fair in Fort Lee- 10/14/17, 2nd Annual Paint the Town Pink-5/13/17 and 4th Annual Paws in the Park-10/28/17 events.

In 2017, a number of specific items are in need of noting:

Board members Teresa Morgillo resigned as of May 2017 and Pharmacist Jennie Chong was newly appointed to the Board of Health by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Governing Body.

The Health Department continues to contract Jeff Silvers as the bloodborne pathogen coordinator for the Borough.

The borough continued to have a series of temporary special events throughout the year that required departmental participation in the planning stage and review food safety concerns for food items provided to the public.

750 doses of Quadrivalent Preservative-Free Single Dose influenza were ordered and used in vaccinating residents against seasonal influenza. 375 residents were vaccinated throughout the year. The health department also has walk-in clinics and makes home visits to residents who are home bound. The Health Department was reimbursed \$47.66 for each Medicare Part B recipient inoculated. This fund totaled \$5,909.84.

8 animal bites were followed up on, and none received post exposure treatment for rabies. Since rabies is a fatal disease, proper follow-up and documentation in a timely manner is imperative.

There were 32 new food establishments opened in 2017.

The department continued to work on the records retention schedule and destroying documents no longer required to be held onto after receiving state approval.

The following is a breakdown of activities of each component of the Health Department:

Inquiries, Issues, and Complaint Investigations: Improving Community Quality of Life, Health, and Safety

Number of contacts handled	36
Number of cases investigated	77

Health Education and Promotion

Health Education occurs throughout all local health department programs, with a focus on providing education and health promotion services that help the public make informed decisions about their health. Health education programs and activities help the community achieve a healthier lifestyle and promote healthy behaviors.

Number of single-session educational events	12
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Individual Clinical Services

- As part of our mission to assure that all people have access to essential health services, local health departments provide a variety of individual, clinical services such as screenings and checkups, referrals to appropriate medical care, and primary medical care and follow-up

Key Facts & Activities	2017 data
Number of clinic-based medical visits provided	26
Number of individuals (unduplicated) who received care at health department clinics	33
Number of children immunized to protect them from dangerous and deadly preventable diseases	19
Number of adults (age 18 and up) immunized to protect them from dangerous and deadly preventable diseases	286
Total number of immunizations provided by the LHD	305
Total number of health screenings provided by the LHD	514
Number of individuals screened for Hepatitis B	0
Number of individuals screened for Cardiovascular Disease	63
Number of individuals screened for Hypertension	223
Number of individuals screened for Diabetes	183
Number of individuals screened for Tuberculosis	0
Number of individuals screened for Vision	59
Number of individuals screened for Hearing	21

School Immunization Record Audits

- To ensure that our community schools and children are keeping kids healthy and safe from preventable disease, local health departments review immunization records of children within schools and childcare facilities.

Key Facts & Activities	2017 data
Number of Childcare / Pre-K facilities	13
Number of Childcare / Pre-K facilities audited by the health department	13
Number of Kindergarten facilities	
Number of Kindergarten facilities audited by the health department	5
Number of Grade 1 facilities	5
Number of Grade 1 facilities audited by the health department	5
Number of Grade 6 facilities	5
Number of Grade 6 facilities audited by the health department	5
Number of High School facilities	1
Number of High School facilities whose transfer school records were audited by the health department	1

Animal Bites and Rabies Control

Key Facts & Activities	2017 data
Number of incidents where an animal bit a human	8
Number of incidents where a rabid or suspected-rabid animal bit a domestic animal (pet / livestock)	0
Number of unimmunized domestic animals that were confined for rabies observation after biting a person or another animal	0

Pet Licensing

All municipalities in New Jersey are responsible for licensing domestic dogs, to ensure that dogs and the people they interact with are protected from rabies. Pet licensing programs also help to quickly reunite lost pets with their owners.

Key Facts & Activities	2017 data
Number of dog licenses issued	674
Number of cat licenses issued	84

Rabies Vaccination Clinics

Key Facts & Activities	2017 data
Number of rabies vaccination clinics conducted by the health department	15
Number of pets vaccinated by the health department	15

Retail Food Establishment Safety

The Board of Health is responsible for directing and administering a program of environmental health related services for the city and its residents. The Health Department is responsible for enforcing numerous State Sanitary and Environmental Codes as mandated by state law. In addition to the mandated state codes, NJSA, Chapter 52, provides the Board of Health with the authority to make reasonable health regulations. The Health Department enforces these BOH Regulations as well. A variety of inspections are conducted to determine compliance with said codes and regulations.

Key Facts & Activities	2017 data
Number of licensed food establishments:	
Risk Level 1 - Establishments that conduct minimal food preparation and minimal handling of potentially hazardous foods	60
Risk Level 2 - Establishments that conduct limited food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	17
Risk Level 3 - Establishments that conduct complex food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	125
Mobile food establishments	3
Temporary - Establishments operating for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration	35
Other - Establishments that conduct ONLY specialized	23
Number of specialized processes overseen by the health department	20
Number of retail food establishment plan reviews conducted	32
Number of pre-operational retail food establishment inspections conducted	32
Number of routine inspections for the following types of retail food establishments:	
Risk Level 1 - Establishments that conduct minimal food preparation and minimal handling of potentially hazardous foods	120
Risk Level 2 - Establishments that conduct limited food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	34
Risk Level 3 - Establishments that conduct complex food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	375
mobile food establishments	3
Temporary - Establishments operating for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration	35
Other - Establishments that conduct ONLY specialized processes such as canning	92
Number of routine re-inspections for the following types of establishments:	

Risk Level 1 - Establishments that conduct minimal food preparation and minimal handling of potentially hazardous foods	3
Risk Level 2 - Establishments that conduct limited food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	3
Risk Level 3 - Establishments that conduct complex food preparation and heat/cool potentially hazardous foods	33
Mobile food establishments	0
Temporary - Establishments operating for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration	0
Other - Establishments that conduct ONLY specialized processes such as canning	1
Number of non-routine emergency & complaint-related investigations/inspections:	
Investigations	9
Inspections (other than routine inspections)	12
Number of establishments on which the health department had to take one or more enforcement actions	21

Annual Financial Summary

Fiscal Year Summary	
Total Revenue	\$70,049.80
Revenue from Borough of Fort Lee	\$638,348.00
Revenue from service and licensing fees	\$70,049.80
Total expenditures for 01/01/2017 through 12/31/2017	\$706,477
Budget for next fiscal year	\$731,427.00

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- **Annual Seasonal Flu Clinics** – Approximately 375 doses of seasonal flu vaccine were administered at our flu clinics in the fall of 2017 which includes the annual health fair, walk-ins and home visits to homebound residents. In partnership with the Fort Lee Schools’ Nurse, the Public Health Nurse was able to administer to school employees at their respective schools. The Health Department also vaccinated borough employees.
- **Medication Take Back Program** –The placement of a medication disposal drop box at the Police Station continues to provide residents with the opportunity dispose of their unwanted medications on a regular 24/7/365 basis. Holy Name Hospital and Englewood Hospital continues to provide a sharps kiosk in the hospital lobby for residents to dispose of their sharps on a 24/7/365 basis.

- **Marriage, Birth & Mortality** – 210 Fort Lee residents applied for a marriage license at the Health Department. There were a total of 311 births from Fort Lee residents in local hospitals. There were 300 deaths of Fort Lee residents where death occurred within the community. These figures include deaths at local hospital, nursing homes, at home by illness and through accident or suicide.

CONTRACTS

- Bergen County Humane Enforcement, Cliffside Park, NJ to provide us with animal control services. The cost is \$52,477.00 for the year.
- Hackensack Awareness Regional Program, Hackensack, NJ to provide us with Nursing services and Health education and programs. The cost is \$13,518.00 for the year.
- Excel Termite and Pest Control, River Edge, NJ to provide us with exterminating and pest control. The cost is \$2,250.00 for the year.

As we enter calendar year 2018 the Board of Health and the Health Department will continue to conduct compliance inspections, investigate complaints and promote policies and programs to protect public health and the environment. We will continue to work with other municipalities and private organizations to obtain beneficial grant awards and cost effective service contracts.

Special thanks are extended to the members of the medical community who volunteered their time during various screening programs offered throughout the year. These programs would not have been possible without the willingness of individuals in donating their time and services to our department.

On behalf of the Board and its staff I wish to thank Mayor Sokolich and the Borough Council for their support of our public health efforts throughout the year and for their anticipated assistance and support in 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
For The Board of Health

Stephen S. Wielkocz,
Health Officer
Fort Lee Health Department