

Public Health IMPACT

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING PUBLIC HEALTH TOPICS & EVENTS FOR THE MARION COUNTY COMMUNITY • SPRING 2025 • ISSUE NO.4



Bukola Adekoye, Certified Medical Assistant, gives a child an eye exam as part of his wellness exam.

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ACTION Health Center serves clients thru age 26

Dr. Millicent Moye, Director of MCPHD's ACTION Health Center, has a lot of good things to say about the facility that she has overseen for the past 10 years.

The Center, located near 29th and Meridian streets at 2868 Pennsylvania Street, is a full-service medical office serving residents from birth up thru age 26, and is located on the IndyGo bus line.

The ACTION Health Center offers a range of services including physical exams, lab testing, sexual health exams, wellness exams, daycare physicals, as well as mental health exams and counseling. Referrals can also be made to other MCPHD departments such as Nutrition, Healthy Homes and Community Based Care.

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Jennifer Hannon, RN, checks a patient's temperature during an exam

MCPHD hosts Preparedness Exercise

About 90 officials from local, state and federal agencies and hospitals attended a tabletop exercise on Feb. 19 that was organized by MCPHD's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Department, to discuss how they would respond to an incident in downtown Indianapolis.

Representatives from MCPHD, area hospitals, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, Indianapolis Fire Department, Indiana State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, IndyGo, the Red Cross, Poison Control, the Indiana Emergency Medical Services, the Marion County Coroner's Office, the Emergency Management Agency, the National

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ACTION HEALTH CENTER, *Continued from page 1*

“We offer a lot of services, all under one roof,” Dr. Moye said.

The healthcare providers at the Center prioritize listening to patients and understanding factors affecting their care, offering longer appointment times for better patient-provider relationships. The Center has one pediatrician and one family-medicine nurse practitioner on staff, and Dr. Moye is a family-medicine doctor.

“We want our patients to feel like someone is walking beside them, caring about what’s going on with their health,” she said.

Other key features that set the ACTION Health Center apart from other providers include its quick appointment scheduling (many patients can receive an appointment within 48 hours of calling and some can receive same-day appointments), affordability (most services cost \$20 or less), and accessibility to patients regardless of their ability to pay.

Location:
2868 Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Hours:
Monday/Tuesday/
Thursday/Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wednesday
8 a.m.-6 p.m.

2nd Saturday of each
month
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

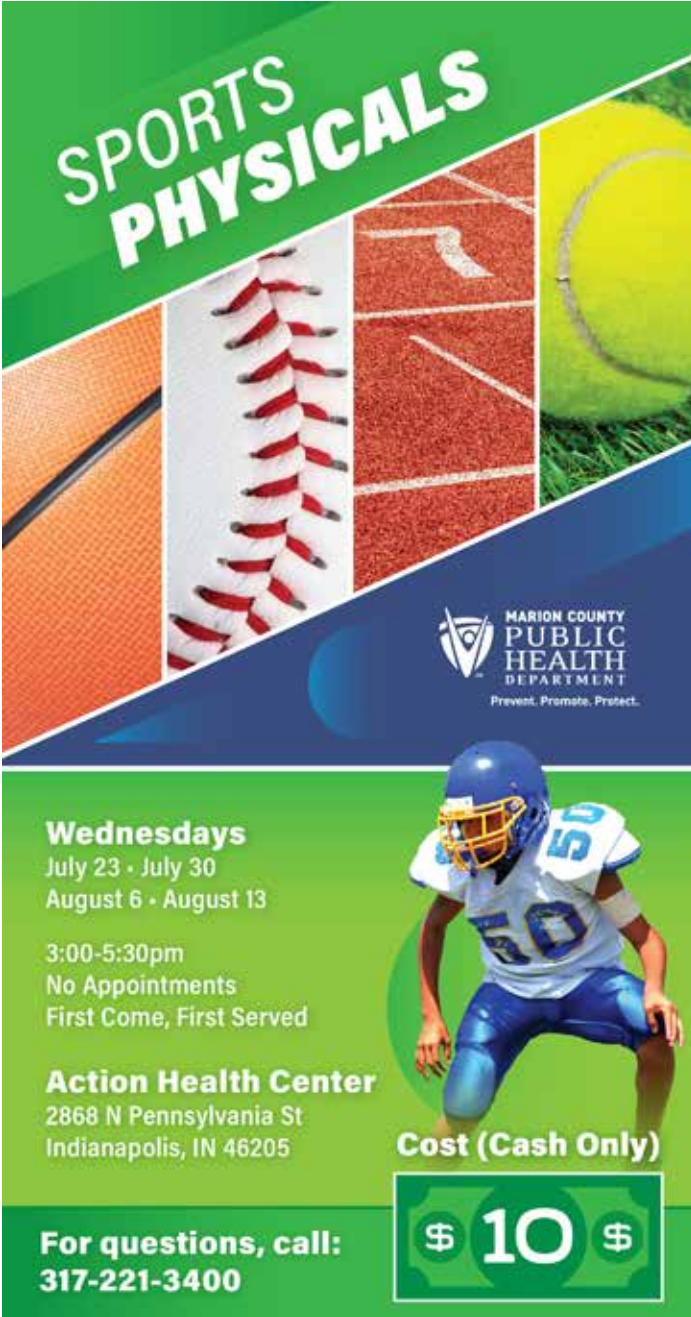
Phone Number:
317-221-3400

The Center accepts most insurance plans, and is committed to serving underinsured or uninsured patients. When applicable, patients can be referred to insurance navigators through MCPHD’s Covering Kids and Families program.

The health center was established in 1988, and was initially focused on providing primary care and enrichment programs for teenagers, under the name “Adolescent Care Team In Our Neighborhood.” It has since expanded its services to serve a broader range of patients.

The slower pace at the Center and the access to in-house referrals results in more comprehensive health outcomes. The Center also engages in community outreach through school presentations and physicals.

“Not enough people know about our office,” Dr. Moye said. “We will talk with people who see us for school physicals or for vaccinations and who maybe don’t know all that we offer, that we could meet a lot of their needs.”

A poster for sports physicals. The top half features a collage of sports-related images: a baseball, a red running track, and a yellow tennis ball. The text "SPORTS PHYSICALS" is written in large, white, bold letters across the top. Below the collage, the Marion County Public Health Department logo is visible, with the tagline "Prevent. Promote. Protect." The bottom half of the poster is green and features a football player in a blue and white uniform running. The text "Wednesdays" is written in white, followed by the dates "July 23 • July 30" and "August 6 • August 13". Below this, the time "3:00-5:30pm" and the text "No Appointments" and "First Come, First Served" are listed. The "Action Health Center" address "2868 N Pennsylvania St Indianapolis, IN 46205" is provided. The cost is listed as "Cost (Cash Only)" and "For questions, call: 317-221-3400". A large green box with white text shows "\$ 10 \$".

SPORTS PHYSICALS

MARION COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Wednesdays
July 23 • July 30
August 6 • August 13

3:00-5:30pm
No Appointments
First Come, First Served

Action Health Center
2868 N Pennsylvania St
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Cost (Cash Only)

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Preparedness Exercise, *Continued from page 1*

Weather Service, Capitol Police, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Department of Health, Indiana National Guard’s Civil Support Team and others participated in the exercise.

The purpose of the exercise was to use scenario-based discussion to enhance agencies’ preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities. Bringing together local, state, and federal partners for exercises like this can improve collaboration, ensure effective communication, and clarify roles among the various law enforcement, emergency services, public health, hospitals, emergency management and intelligence agencies.



Kassandra Joumpi, MCPHD’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, addresses the attendees at the Tabletop Exercise



Reclaiming the Village addresses needs of Marion County youth

Mentors empower youth, prepare them for future

Reclaiming the Village (RTV), a component of the Health & Hospital Corporation's External Affairs Department, has more than two decades of success addressing the needs of youth in Marion County, and will undergo some changes this summer to respond to the evolving needs of the community.

Originally established by Greg Porter, HHC's Senior Vice President of External Affairs, to provide mentoring to teens, the program has evolved to support the academic and socio-emotional needs of students from 3rd grade through high school. Currently, RTV supports more than 200 youth at school-based sites around Marion County.

The program centers around three main initiatives: the "Real Crew Read" book club, designed to increase reading comprehension and critical thinking skills through fiction; the Conflict Resolution program; and Communication Circles, which encourage open dialogue for personal reflection and growth. Together, those initiatives help to empower youth and prepare them for successful futures.

"It's beyond holistic mentoring, we act as life enrichment coaches," said Dr. Rosiline Floyd, RTV's Executive Director. "We are providing youth with a roadmap for navigating life."

The program's goal is to help students think about life beyond their current realities through sessions and



RTV cadets roller skate at an "Exposure Event" at Indianapolis' Fun Factory (above).



RTV cadets and mentors look forward to the etiquette luncheon experience every year. (left)

"Exposure Events" – trips to museums, athletic events, and fishing and archery instruction. These experiences facilitate the development of relationships with adult mentors and face-to-face interactions with their peers.

Program Coordinator Larry Humes has spent 20 years with the program, watching it evolve from after-school programming at YMCAs into having citywide impact. He said he hopes to utilize more guest speakers from the Marion County Public Health Department and the Health & Hospital Corporation – who were popular guests before COVID.

Upcoming changes will include a rebranding initiative, including a new

name that will reflect the program's commitment to culture, students and families. Floyd said they are looking into incorporating artificial intelligence into the program to better prepare students for the future, and will expand the focus on community involvement and forging stronger partnerships with parents.

"We believe these changes will strengthen our community connections and enhance our overall educational experience," she said. "These changes will embody our mission and values even more clearly."

For more information about the program, please contact Dr. Rosiline Floyd at rfloyd@hhcorp.org.

Housing & Neighborhood Health launches new Apartment Complex Outreach Program

The mission of the Housing & Neighborhood Health Department, the largest department in the Environmental Division of the Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD), is to protect the health and safety of Marion County residents in their homes and to promote clean and healthy neighborhoods. The department receives an average of 12,000 registered complaints annually for substandard housing conditions, trash, high weeds and grass and junk vehicles. Housing Environmental Health Specialists perform more than 45,000 inspections each year to address these needs in the community. Through code enforcement, education, and outreach, the 56-member department serves as a lifeline to thousands of Marion County residents.

While code enforcement is their primary function, the Housing Department plays a key role in many outreach activities including participation in more than 60 neighborhood meetings, Great Indy Clean-Ups, multi-agency collaborations, and homelessness and eviction prevention. Those efforts have been bolstered by the department's new Apartment Complex Outreach Program.

Thasneem Najum, a Housing Community Education & Outreach Liaison, emphasized that people living in low-income housing often have difficulties accessing resources and services. So, she spent several months in the fall of 2024 coordinating with MCPHD teams and the Indianapolis Housing Agency (IHA) to bring three outreach events to residents at Barton Annex, Concord Eagle Creek, and Indiana Avenue apartment complexes.

The events included representatives from MCPHD's Housing & Neighborhood Health, Healthy Homes, Indoor Air, Nutrition, Dental Health, Senior Care Management and the ACTION Health Center.

Residents could receive children's story books, buckets with cleaning supplies, and sample healthy meal options prepared by a nutrition team member using ingredients provided by the Central Indiana Council on Aging (CICOA.) Other topics covered at the outreach events included mold prevention and remediation, bedbug prevention and treatment, and cavity prevention.



Housing staff Harvey "Chip" Jefferson, Thasneem Najum, Reba Taylor-Hill and Spencer Beckley showcase a cleaning-supply kit that is given out as part of the outreach project.

More than 70 residents attended the first three Apartment Complex Outreach Program events, and the Housing Department plans to continue collaborating with other MCPHD departments, IHA and other low-income apartment complexes, and local resource agencies and officials to bring more events to housing complexes.

"We are excited to see the momentum the Apartment Complex Outreach Program has gained. Although enforcing minimum housing standards remains a critical service, we are thrilled that we can bring additional resources to our most vulnerable clients," said Juliana Kennedy, Housing & Neighborhood Health administrator.

For more information about MCPHD's Housing & Neighborhood Health Department, please call 317-221-2150.

MARION COUNTY FOOD & CONSUMER SAFETY SERVICES

The Marion County Public Health Department's Food & Consumer Safety Department licenses and inspects retail and temporary food establishments and responds to consumer complaints, as well as provide food safety education.

For more information, or to report a food complaint, please call: 317-221-2222.

To report a food complaint online, please visit:
<https://mcphtredcap.hhcorp.org/surveys/?s=3CLK8XYXJTCW8FNR>

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE
BY SCANNING
THE QR CODE



Eskenazi Health Opens Pharmacy Central Fulfillment Center on Indy's Northwest Side

Automation to improve efficiency, expand capacity

Eskenazi Health is announcing the opening of the Eskenazi Health Pharmacy Central Fulfillment Center, aimed to meet the rising demand for pharmacy services. While the new 32,000-square-foot facility is not open to the public, it will transform how prescriptions are filled at Eskenazi Health.

Eskenazi Health Pharmacy has seen increases in the number of prescriptions filled, including more than 1.3 million prescriptions in 2024. Outpatient prescriptions have traditionally been filled at the eight retail pharmacies located within Eskenazi Health Center and Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center sites or on the Eskenazi Health downtown campus. The new Central Fulfillment Center, located on the northwest side of Indianapolis, will utilize state-of-the-art automation to improve efficiency and dramatically expand prescription filling capacity.

The new facility includes a large production center with a machine-automated process to fill patient prescription orders. Specialized equipment will also automate compliance blister packaging to help patients who are on complex medication regimens. Prescriptions will either be couriered to an Eskenazi Health retail pharmacy for dispensing or delivered directly to the patient's home, an expansion of the current prescription delivery program.



Production center with a machine-automated process fills patient prescription orders more quickly and efficiently (above).

Eskenazi Health staff members tour the new fulfillment center in mid-February (left).

Later this year, a centralized call center will also open in the new facility to route incoming calls to trained pharmacy staff located within the new facility.

"We have a vision for a fundamentally different model of health system retail pharmacy. This facility will allow us to take the commodity work out of our retail pharmacies to free up our staff to do different work," said Christopher Wickesberg, PharmD, MBA, director of Eskenazi Health Pharmacy. "This is a once-

in-a-generation infrastructure investment that will allow Eskenazi Health to continue to meet the medication needs and improve the health of the Indianapolis community for many years to come."

The first prescription was filled in late February. Within five years, it is estimated that nearly 60% of all Eskenazi Health Pharmacy prescriptions will be filled at the new fulfillment center. Some prescriptions, such as antibiotics and other medications that are prescribed and needed same

day, will continue to be filled directly at Eskenazi Health retail pharmacy locations within the health centers and on the downtown campus.

In addition, this investment will allow Eskenazi Health Pharmacy staff to expand their outreach and allow more time for things like administering vaccines, providing medication therapy management and transitions of care services, and allow Pharmacy staff to better integrate into the care provided at the health centers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIABETES MANAGEMENT

The ABCs of Diabetes Self-Management Education/Support program of the Marion County Public Health Department is committed to providing adults with ready access to educational services and information in the area of managing and preventing diabetes.

Please register at least one week prior to the first class. Participants should plan to attend all classes for the month.

QUESTIONS: email diabetes@marionhealth.org or call 317-221-2094.

REGISTER AT: www.marionhealth.org/diabetes

JUNE Martindale-Brightwood Library
2434 N. Sherman Dr., 46218
Tuesdays 3, 10, 17, 24
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

JULY Online
Wednesdays 9, 16, 23, 30
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

SAFESITTER

Essentials with CPR

Designed to prepare students to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting.

The Instructor-led class is filled with fun games and role-playing exercises. Students even get to use manikins to practice rescue skills like choking rescue and CPR!



One-Day Class Options

June 4, 2025 | June 13, 2025 | June 30, 2025 | October 10, 2025
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Marion County Public Health Department
4012 North Rural Street
Indianapolis, IN

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Grades 6-8 eligible. Class fee is \$30. Students need to bring a sack lunch. Register early as classes fill quickly! Limited economic hardship scholarships available.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED and must be completed 2-weeks prior to the class date. To pre-register or for more information, call 317.221.8953 or email aburse@marionhealth.org.



Virginia A. Caine, M.D., MCPHD Director and Chief Medical Officer, joined Indiana University Health on March 4 to unveil the state's first mobile lung cancer screening unit. This new resource will bring lung cancer screenings to Indiana counties with the highest smoking rates, highest lung cancer incidence and mortality rates, and least access to lung screening. The unit is a partnership between IU Health and the IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center, and is made possible by a gift from the Tom and Julie Wood Family Foundation. (L to R): Michele Saysana, M.D., interim president of the IU Health Metro Region; Kelvin Lee, M.D., IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center Director; Nasser Hanna, M.D., Tom and Julie Wood Family Foundation Professor of Lung Cancer Clinical Research; John Wood, Tom and Julie Wood Family Foundation; Virginia A. Caine, M.D., Director and Chief Medical Officer for the MCPHD; Nichole Wilson, Vice President of Community Health Operations at IU Health; and Jami Marsh, IU Health Foundation Vice President of Philanthropy & Strategy.

HHC/MCPHD construction projects progressing

Construction work is progressing on the new Marion County Public Health Laboratory Building, with completion expected by summer 2026, and Grand Opening targeted for Fall 2026.

Since the groundbreaking, crews have installed underground utilities and stormwater drainage pipes and structures. Foundation work is in

progress and steel framing has begun. The installation of stonework masonry is expected to begin in mid-April.

A Community Engagement Meeting was held on Feb. 27, 2025, to share the construction and overall campus development progress made with the Meadows neighborhood.

Additionally, HHC is renovating the

former Chase Bank Building at 3950 Meadows Drive into a new headquarters for HHC's Security Department and a new home for the IEMS Medic 10 ambulance, and construction will begin later this year on a new headquarters and maintenance facility for the Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services (IEMS) on E. 38th and Adams Street.

— Join Us for our 25th Annual —

Back to School

& Community Resource Day

Featuring IFD Fire Safety Festival



Supplies • Screenings • Entertainment • More!

Saturday, July 12 • 8:30am-12pm



Marion County Public Health Department (Parking Lot)
3838 North Rural Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205

For more info, call 317-221-2464, scan the QR code or visit
<https://hhcorp.org/covering-kids-and-families>



**ESKENAZI
HEALTH**



3838 North Rural Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES • GENERAL INFORMATION - 317-221-2000

ACTION Health Center Pediatric, Adolescent, Young Adult Services 317-221-3400 B.A.B.E. 317-221-3050 Bed Bug Education & Prevention 317-221-2155 Bell Flower Clinic • Sexually Transmitted Disease Testing & Prevention 317-221-8300 Birth and Death Certificates 317-221-2400 Body Art Facility Regulation 317-221-2270 Cardiovascular Health 317-221-2322 Child Car-Seat Helpline 317-221-2045 Chronic Disease Programs 317-221-2094 Dental Health 317-221-2329	Diabetes Education 317-221-2104 Environmental Health Safety & Management 317-221-7596 Epidemiology 317-221-3355 Food and Consumer Safety 317-221-2222 Foreign-Born/Refugee Health 317-221-2133 Hazardous Materials 317-221-2266 Health Education, Promotion & Training 317-221-2092 Healthy Families 317-221-2349 Healthy Homes, Environmental Consumer Management & Senior Care 317-221-2155 HIV/AIDS Prevention Information 317-221-3000	Housing & Neighborhood Health 317-221-2150 Immunizations 317-221-2122 Indoor Air Quality 317-221-2266 Infectious Disease Control 317-221-2117 Injury Prevention 317-221-3145 Laboratory 317-221-4670 Maternal & Child Health 317-221-2312 Mortgage Loan Inspections 317-221-2266 Mosquito/Rodent Control 317-221-7440 Northeast District Health Office 317-221-7300 Northwest District Health Office 317-221-7500	Nutrition Services 317-221-7403 Older Adult Health 317-221-2092 School Health Services 317-221-2367 Wells & Drinking Water Quality/ Sewage & Septic System Regulation 317-221-2147 Social Work 317-221-2364 South District Health Office 317-221-5701 Substance Use Outreach Services 317-221-4618 Swimming Pool Regulation 317-221-2270 Tobacco Control 317-221-3007 Tuberculosis Control 317-221-2110 WIC 317-221-7401
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