

## Director's Update to the Board of Health September 2024

### Protecting Health – Preventing the Spread of Infectious Disease

#### Flu

We have numerous events planned in the next few weeks as we enter flu season.

We will be offering three drive through/walk up flu shot events for Metro employees and their families on Oct. 1 at Lentz (in partnership with the state's Fight Flu TN Day), on Oct. 16 at Fulton Campus, and Oct. 17 at Metro Southeast.

At the request of Vice Mayor Angie Henderson, we will have a Strike Team at the Metro Council meeting on Oct. 1 for people the council members and staff.

#### COVID

We are anticipating carrying COVID vaccines again for this 2024-2025 COVID season. Preventive health clinics will stock Pfizer formulation. We are awaiting more information regarding protocols and staff/patient resources prior to announcing a start date.

#### Back to School

As per usual, August was extremely busy for the immunizations staff with the resumption of MNPS classes. As you know we tried to get ahead of that this year with events throughout the summer. The clinical staff here, at East and Woodbine provided 4,344 vaccinations in July and August. Our mobile Strike Teams provided an additional 949 vaccines and 58 physicals for 333 patients in August alone. For June through August, that group provided 2,120 vaccinations.

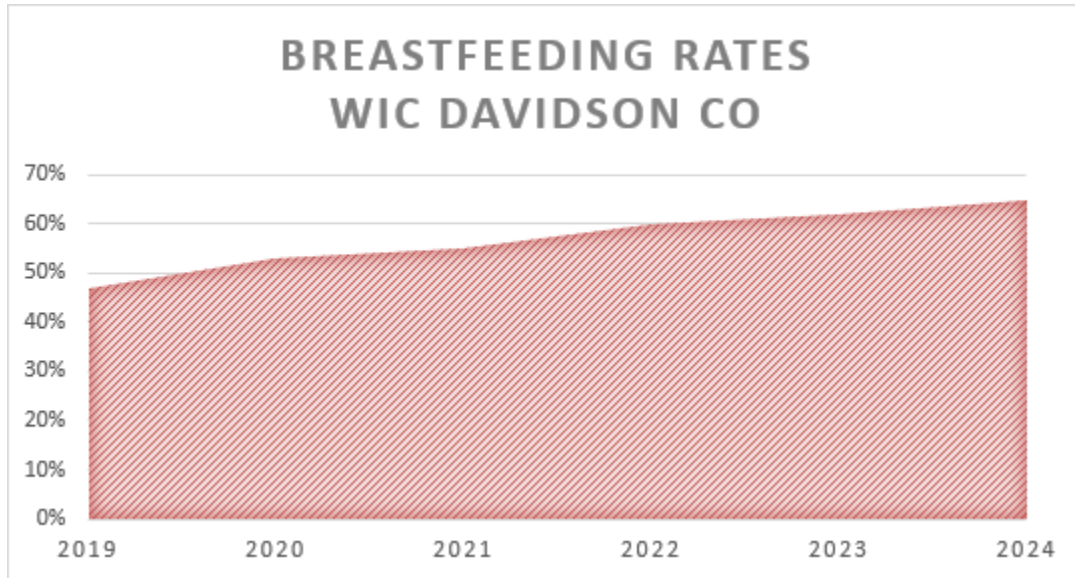
### Promote and Support Healthier Living

#### National Breastfeeding Month

...Is celebrated annually in August. We highlight breastfeeding information and improvements in our community, especially with our WIC program. WIC is the largest breastfeeding support program in the nation and offers both prenatal and post-partum participants with lactation support and education. Davidson County WIC clients receive this support through a variety of methods, including one-on-one counseling with trained lactation staff, virtual group classes, follow-up text messages, and online education that can be completed at any time. This education happens at all four WIC clinics in our county as well as with our Hospital WIC team that serves moms at the bedside after delivery. Throughout August, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers attending WIC appointments received small goodie bags to promote breastfeeding and celebrate their efforts.

Breastmilk is the ideal form of nutrition for infants and has many advantages for both the mother and the baby. Human milk provides essential nutrients and other protective factors that can guard against illness and diseases for both the long and short-term. Breastfeeding individuals themselves may experience lower rates of hypertension, type 2 diabetes, and even some cancers. While our WIC program supports moms with whatever decisions they make with feeding their babies, our county is excited to report an increase in breastfeeding rates over the last few years. Davidson County's WIC program has seen more than a 30 percent increase in breastfeeding rates among its post-partum participants over the last five years, going from 47 percent in 2019 to 65 percent in 2024. Additionally, about three-quarters of infants on WIC in Davidson County initiated breastfeeding this year, and roughly a third of infants turning one

were still receiving some breastmilk. While the Healthy People 2030 goal is for 54.1 percent of infants to still be receiving breastmilk at 1 year, only 27 percent of WIC infants in Davidson County were breastfeeding at one year five years ago. We attribute this success to many factors such as improved laws, increased acceptance of public breastfeeding, and wonderful staff. Currently there are 11 Certified Lactation Counselors, 2 International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants, and four Breastfeeding Peer Counselors on staff in the WIC program.



### Breast and Cervical Screening

The Tennessee Breast and Cervical Screening team is working to highlight breast cancer awareness in October. Below are some events to look forward to (more details on time/place to come):

- “Día de la Mujer”, The Hispanic Family Foundation’s community women’s health event
- Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk Oct. 19 (Nissan Stadium)
- Outlying clinic and Lentz Public Health Department events

### CHA

The 2025 Community Health Assessment Strategic Issue & Prioritization meeting is planned for next week. That group will draft a series of recommendations on strategic issues to be shared with the Nashville Health & Well-being Leadership Council (NHWLC) for adoption and incorporation into the 2026-2028 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

The community health assessment (CHA) process is completed every three years to meet the requirements of the non-profits hospitals (VUMC and AST) for Affordable Care Act compliance and MPHD Public Health Accreditation Board re-accreditation compliance. The CHA process is designed to identify key health needs and assets through systematic, comprehensive data collection in target communities, and serves as a health profile for the community. The CHA describes the significant health needs identified in collaboration with the community, as well as gaps between current and desired health status, and broad multisectoral perspectives on health and healthcare -- with a focus on under-served, low-income, and minority populations. The CHIP is the roadmap outlining the goals, objectives, programs and activities to address each priority area and thereby improve community health over the next three years.

### Suicide Awareness

On Wednesday, September 11, MPHD held its annual Hope is Available event, a suicide awareness event hosted by the Division of Behavioral Health and Wellness. This year's featured speakers represented several different parts of the community. The conclusion included the presentation of the Phillip Whitehead Award, named in honor of the son of a longtime MPHD employee who died by suicide in 2021. This year's recipient was Shannon Huffman, Director of Crisis Services with Family & Children's Service, specifically with the 988 call center. Please see flyer in a following page.

### Create Healthier Community Environments

#### EHR

You may hear about this separately today, but just in case: We received great news that the electronic health record contract with Patagonia has been finalized and received all needed signatures. It continues moving through the system, and this is a big and exciting step.

### Organizational Updates

#### Early Voting

We have agreed to serve as an early voting site here at Lentz for the November general election. After a site visit with the Election Commission staff, it was determined that they needed two of the Centennial rooms for that period (Oct. 16-31). This will be the first time we have done this. We'll see how it goes and decide whether we can make this a regular occurrence.

#### HAPPY 50th WIC!

To celebrate our WIC program's longstanding journey, are inviting our community partners and friends to join in the festivities. We all work together to ensure individuals, children, and families in Davidson County have what they need to survive and thrive -- and we should celebrate this work together.

Please RSVP at this link:

<https://redcap.link/f1tv5fty>

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**JOIN US IN CELEBRATING WIC'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY!**

The Davidson County WIC program invites you to come and celebrate 50 years of empowering families, building healthier communities, and nurturing the bright possibilities that lie ahead!

**Thursday, September 19th from 2-4pm**  
Lentz Centennial Rooms  
2500 Charlotte Ave  
Nashville, TN 37209

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

**CELEBRATING WIC 50 YEARS**

**Newest Board Member, Dr. Morgan McDonald**

The Mayor has appointed and the Metro Council given initial approval to Dr. Morgan McDonald as your newest member. She will serve the remainder of Dr. Bialostozky's term (through June 2027). Final Council approval is expected next week, and if so, she will be a member by the October Board meeting. A full biography will be provided when available.

**Clifton Meador Community Leadership Award**

Congratulations to MPHD Population Bureau Director Dr. Fonda Harris, the 2024 recipient of the Clifton Meador Community Health Leadership Award from the Safety Net Consortium of Middle Tennessee.

The award honors an individual in the Nashville community whose leadership and accomplishments have contributed significantly to improving access to quality health care for low-income, uninsured persons in Nashville and surrounding areas.

This award is named in honor of Dr. Clifton Meador, who was also the first recipient in 2007. For most of his life, Dr. Clifton Meador's medical degree allowed him to help heal the sick, but his passion for medicine went far beyond the white coat, stethoscope and medical degree. The award given is in the shape of a globe to honor the global mindset and far-reaching impact of the work that is done in our Nashville community every day.

This award is presented in partnership by the Safety Net Consortium of Middle Tennessee, the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance, and the Nashville Academy of Medicine. Dr. Meador served as the executive director of the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance from 1999, when it was founded, until early 2012. The Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance played a prominent role in the formation of the Nashville Consortium of Safety Net Providers. Dr. Meador was a strong supporter of Bridges to Care, now Project Access Nashville, and remained a member of the Nashville Academy of Medicine for his full career.

The award letter to Dr. Harris concludes: "We sincerely thank you for all you have done to embody these qualities and for your commitment to the Safety Net Consortium of Middle Tennessee. You have personally impacted low-income, uninsured persons in Nashville and surrounding areas and improved their access to quality care."

Congratulations, Fonda!

The Metro Public Health Department's Behavioral Health and Wellness Division cordially invites you to the

3RD ANNUAL

# Hope is Available

A suicide awareness and prevention event

WEDNESDAY | 11 SEPT 2024 | 9:00 – 11:30 AM

Lentz Public Health Center  
2500 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, 37209



*Kenny Smoov*

On-Air/Programming Radio Veteran  
Master of Ceremony

Inspirational stories • Q & A • Resources

Lunch provided for those who pre-register.

Register today!



Scan the QR Code!



**METRO NASHVILLE**  
ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

# MACC Stats

## August 2024

		Species							Totals	
		Canine			Canine Totals	Feline				Feline Totals
		Adult	Up to 5 Months	Unknown Age		Adult	Up to 5 Months	Unknown Age		
Beginning Animal Count as of 08/01/2024		166	22	1	189	21	62	2	85	274
I N T A K E S	Stray/At Large	240	63	6	309	52	113	8	173	482
	Transferred in from Municipal Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Transferred in from Other Rescue Group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Owner Requested Euthanasia	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
	Relinquished by Owner	12	0	0	12	2	0	0	2	14
	Other Intakes	17	8	0	25	5	0	0	5	30
	<b>Total Intakes</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>529</b>
O U T C O M E S	Adoptions	58	32	1	91	29	61	0	90	181
	Returned to Home	71	4	4	79	6	0	1	7	86
	Transferred to Rescue Group	73	25	0	98	18	12	5	35	133
	Other Live Outcomes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Return to Field	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total Live Outcomes</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>400</b>
	Died in Care	5	0	0	5	0	0	2	2	7
	Lost in Care	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Euthanasia	47	1	2	50	5	7	1	13	63
	Owner Requested Euthanasia	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Total Other Outcomes</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>74</b>	
<b>Total Outcomes</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>474</b>	
Ending Animal Count as of 08/31/2024		192	19	0	211	25	92	1	118	329
Save Rate		80.30%	98.59%	66.67%	83.82%	91.53%	93.81%	62.50%	91.67%	86.50%