

"The Midland County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) has been fortunate to have the support of the Regional Epidemiologist for the past several years. The Regional Epidemiologists provide a great deal of support and expertise to our outbreak investigations, planning and preparedness activities, staff training and statistical analysis. The MCDPH is a Local Health Department (LHD) that does not have the local resources to support an Epidemiologist on staff, so the services and support provided by the Regional Epidemiologist truly have a profound effect on our ability to respond. The Regional Epidemiologist has been an invaluable resource for us in Midland County, as well as for all of the LHDs in Michigan."

-Fred Yanoski, MPH, Director/Health Officer/EH Director, Midland Co

### Other Useful

#### Sources of Information:

- [www.michigan.gov/mdhhs](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs)
- [www.michigan.gov/cdinfo](http://www.michigan.gov/cdinfo)
- [www.michigan.gov/mdss](http://www.michigan.gov/mdss)
- [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)
- <http://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases/>

## Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Communicable Disease Division Division Director: Jim Collins

### Surveillance and Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section

Section Manager: Shannon Johnson

Main Line: 517-335-8165

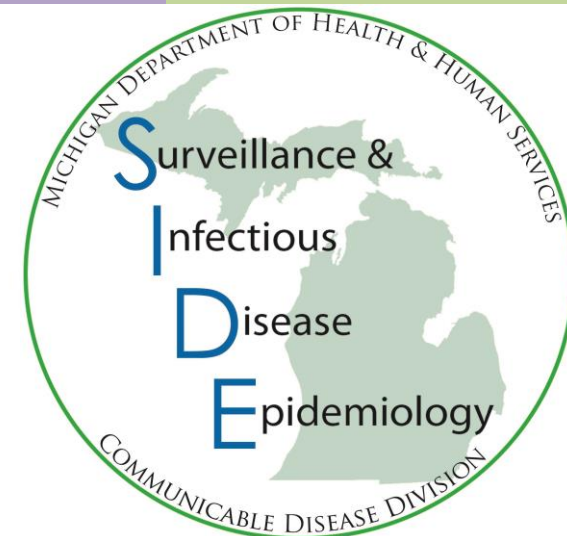
- Region 1**     **Meghan Weinberg**  
WeinbergM1@michigan.gov  
517-749-2153
- Region 2N**   **Nicole Parker-Strobe**  
ParkerStrobeN@michigan.gov  
517-930-6906
- Region 2S**   **Joyce Lai**  
LaiJ@michigan.gov  
734-727-7204
- Region 3**     **Tim Bolen**  
BolenT1@michigan.gov  
989-832-6690
- Region 5**     **Bethany Reimink**  
ReiminkB@michigan.gov  
269-373-5293
- Region 6**     **Fatema Mamou**  
MamouF@michigan.gov  
616-632-7245
- Region 7**     **Roger Racine**  
RacineR@michigan.gov  
231-995-6106
- Region 8**     **Scott Schreiber**  
SchreiberS@michigan.gov  
906-643-1100 ext. 208

#### Regional Epidemiology Unit

Unit Manager: Tiffany Henderson

HendersonT1@michigan.gov

517-284-4949



## Regional Epidemiologist

### A Resource Close to Home

*The Regional Epidemiologist position was developed with the intent to liaise between Local Public Health and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and to assist in epidemiologic and surveillance activities for bioterrorism, traditional communicable diseases and other emerging threats.*

*Since their inception, Regional Epidemiologists have also found other ways to assist the regions they serve.*

# Regional Epidemiologists: A Valuable Resource

## Core Functions

Regional Epidemiologists are tasked with tracking illness in the community on a local and regional level, as well as in the State of Michigan. This can be achieved through the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS), Michigan Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS), outbreak investigations and communications with local health partners. Regional epidemiologists also support preparedness efforts in communicable disease, bioterrorism and other unusual events.

- Liaise between MDHHS and local health departments
- Support outbreak investigations
- Increase communication between state, local, and regional health officials
- Perform bioterrorism surveillance & emerging infectious disease epidemiology
- Conduct data analysis and prepare material for distribution including reportable disease data and MSSS alert data
- Assist with the development of the Outbreak Management System (OMS)
- Provide MDSS and OMD technical support and training to local health departments, private providers and hospital infection control staff
- Participate in preparedness exercises and meetings at regional and local levels
- Distribute Weekly Surveillance Reports (WSRs)
- Attend local health department communicable disease and epidemiology meetings and deliver situation updates
- Assist with preparedness grant activities including the annual Epi Work Plan
- Maintain the CDInfo and MDSS websites

## Additional Services

Available Upon Request as Time Permits

Each region and local health jurisdiction has unique needs and resources. The type of epidemiologic support and surge capacity outside of core functions vary depending on need.

- Assist with outbreaks and communicable disease (CD) investigations
  - Develop interview tools and online surveys
  - Create and maintain line lists
  - Coordinate multi-jurisdictional outbreak investigations
  - Assist with contact tracing and monitoring
  - Transport specimens and/or testing supplies
  - Analyze data, generate epidemiologic summaries, develop maps
  - Help with MDSS and NORS reporting
- Host/chair region-wide meetings
- Contribute to CDC Epi-Aid investigations
- Conduct non-routine MSSS surveillance at the county level, including enhanced analysis around special events and climate-related illness
- Participate in disaster epidemiology planning and response activities
- Act as an informational resource
  - Provide CD presentations and trainings
  - Produce and distribute CD and MDSS guidance documents
- Represent CD interests at community forums
- Serve as members on MPHA and other public health organizations
- Perform CD accreditation and mock accreditation
- Support local health department disease reporting into the MDSS
  - Refer patients, and investigate, review, and complete cases
  - Aid in end-of-year case closure prior to final CDC reporting
  - Resolve duplicate case reporting to ensure timely case referral

## Awards and Publications

- Live Poultry Shipment Box Sampling at Feed Stores as an Indicator for Human *Salmonella* Infections – Michigan, 2016-2018; May 3, 2019; *MMWR* 68(17); 407-408
- Outbreak of Listeriosis Likely Associated with Prepackaged Caramel Apples – United States, 2017 – January 25, 2019; *MMWR* 68(3); 76-77
- Vaccine Shot-Limiting; Estimating the Prevalence, Indicators, and Impact on Vaccination Status – MI, 2012. *Vaccine*. 2017 Feb 15;35(7):1018-1023.
- Tuberculosis Among Temporary Visa Holders Working in the Tourism Industry – United States, 2012–2014; March 25, 2016; *MMWR* 65(11);279–281
- Hepatitis A Outbreak Among Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Group Homes – Michigan, 2013; February 20, 2015; *MMWR* 64(06);148-152
- 2014 Michigan Department of Community Health Certificates of Recognition; Nominees for the categories of “Innovative Idea” and “Outstanding Teamwork”
- 2013 Richard Calley Distinguished Service Award from Saginaw County Department of Public Health
- Outbreak of Cryptosporidiosis Associated with a Firefighting Response – Indiana and Michigan, June 2011; March 9, 2012; *MMWR* 61(09): 153-156
- Emergency Department Visits After Use of a Drug Sold as “Bath Salts” – Michigan, November 13, 2010; March 31, 2011; *MMWR* 60(19):624-7
- Michigan Department of Community Health Director’s Choice Award for the creation of the CDInfo website 2010
- Nonpharmaceutical Fentanyl-Related Deaths – Multiple States, April 2005 – March 2007; July 25, 2008; *MMWR* 57(29):793-6
- Norovirus Outbreak Associated with Ill Food-Service Workers – Michigan, January – February 2006; November 23, 2007; *MMWR* 56(46):1212-1216
- Severe Morbidity and Mortality Associated with Influenza in Children and Young Adults – Michigan, 2003; September 5, 2003; *MMWR* 52(35): 837-840