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## About the Bexley Community

The city of Bexley was home to approximately 13,760 community members as of January 1, 2022.<sup>1</sup> About 3 in 4 (76.0%) Bexley residents have at least a bachelor's degree for education and the median household income is greater than Franklin County overall at \$121,182.<sup>2</sup> In total, 6.7% of Bexley residents were born outside of the United States and 8.9% speak a language other than English at home.<sup>2</sup> About 7.3% of Bexley residents report having at least one disability, with cognitive difficulty being the most common disability.<sup>2</sup>

From 2017-2021, 9.8% of live births to residents of zip code 43209 were considered preterm, or earlier than 37 weeks of pregnancy.<sup>3</sup> In 2021, an estimated 1 in 10 (10.8%) Bexley adults currently smoked. Both preterm birth and smoking rates are higher than the Healthy People 2030 targets. Furthermore, 17.2% of Bexley adults were physically inactive, 23.9% had depression, 9.7% had asthma, and 6.5% had cancer (excluding skin cancer) in 2021.<sup>4</sup> From 2019-2021, the leading causes of death<sup>3</sup> among Bexley residents were:



For more information about the health and wellbeing of the Bexley community, visit the [Bexley Community Profile](#) on [franklinco cares.org](http://franklinco cares.org). Bexley health data available in [CARES](#) include mental health, dental health, medication use, physical activity, tobacco use, healthcare visits, and more.<sup>5</sup> You can find additional local data by zip code and neighborhood, like social vulnerability, preterm birth, or naloxone administrations, on Franklin County Public Health's [FCPH Data Hub](#).

## Behavioral Health & Addiction Services

### Overdose Data to Action

In 2022, there were 63 emergency department admissions for suspected drug overdoses among residents of zip code 43209.<sup>6</sup> In 2021, there were 2 deaths due to accidental overdose among residents of Bexley.<sup>3</sup> Preliminary data indicates there were 2 deaths due to accidental overdose among Bexley residents in 2022 as well.<sup>3</sup>

In 2022, Franklin County Public Health utilized funds from the OD2A grant to fund several partner efforts serving people who live, work, and play in Bexley to prevent overdose:

- In 2022, Safe Point served 31 residents of zip code 43209 through a combination of mobile outreach and syringe service program services. These 31 residents interacted with Safe Point 84 times throughout the year, returning 6,490 syringes and receiving 7,000 syringes in return, based on a maximum distribution limit of 280 syringes per client per month. In these 84 interactions, clients also accepted overdose prevention education materials 71 times. These clients also received 188 fentanyl test strips, 98 naloxone kits, 69 sets of safe injection materials, 67 sharps containers, 53 safe smoking kits, 43 sets of safe sex materials, and 30 safe snorting kits.
- Columbus Division of Fire's Rapid Response Emergency Addiction Crisis Team (RREACT) makes use of the skills and resources available to first responders to make contact with individuals that experience an overdose, are treated by EMS, and subsequently refuse transport to the hospital for treatment. In 2022, RREACT staff made 17 outreach attempts to 7 Bexley residents who had experienced an overdose.

### **Naloxone & Injury Prevention**

Naloxone, or Narcan, is a medication used to reverse an opioid overdose. In 2022, FCPH trained approximately 19 residents of zip code 43209 in naloxone administration through either live community trainings or online video trainings. In 2022, FCPH distributed at least 70 naloxone kits to residents of zip code 43209. More naloxone may have been distributed to residents, but we do not require recipients to report their zip code of residence.

In 2022, FCPH distributed approximately **70 naloxone kits** and **trained 19 residents** of zip code 43209.

Naloxone Kits Distributed & Trainees, Residence Zip Code 43209, 2022

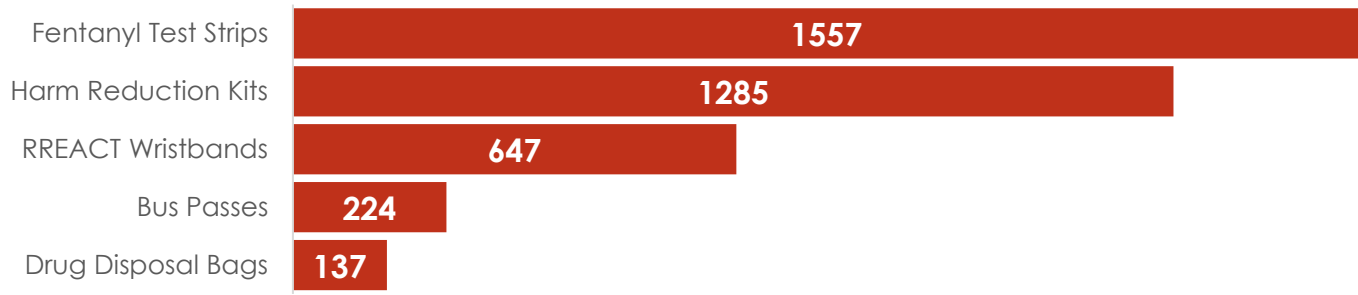


### **Community Harm Reduction**

HSP's Harm Reduction team engages with community members who use drugs to prevent overdose, spread of disease, and other poor health outcomes. From December 2021 through November 2022, the HSP Harm Reduction team distributed over 4,000 total harm reduction items to Franklin County community members, including potential Bexley residents. In addition to items listed below, FCPH distributed 57 RFL Go Kits, which included 1 pair of socks, 1 flashlight, a water bottle, a mask, a first aid kit, hand sanitizer, and recovery information.

**Thousands of harm reduction items** were distributed throughout Franklin County from December 2021 through November 2022.

Harm Reduction Items Distributed, Franklin County, December 2021-November 2022



- Fentanyl test strips are used to detect fentanyl in drugs to prevent opioid overdose with use.
- Harm Reduction Kits include 1 pair of socks, 5 condoms, 10 bandages, 10 alcohol swabs, a poncho, 5 pads, two tampons, and recovery information.

### **Tobacco Prevention & Cessation**

In 2022, FCPH provided 7 “Ask, Advise, Refer” trainings to healthcare staff, youth community organizations, community health workers, and other groups who work directly with members of the Franklin County community to direct residents to cessation resources.

From July 2021 through October 2022, HSP’s Tobacco Prevention & Cessation team and their community partners enrolled 697 FCPH jurisdiction residents through the Quitline to connect them with tobacco cessation resources. Any Bexley resident can access and utilize tobacco cessation resources provided by FCPH and its partners at <https://myfcph.org/quitnow/>.

### **Care Coordination**

The HSP Care Coordination team is made up of community health workers (CHWs) who work as members of the Central Ohio Pathways HUB, an evidence-based model for connecting individuals in need of services (social and medical) or experiencing a hardship to those services. There are a total of 20 different services, or pathways, that an individual can select. HSP CHWs served 8 residents of zip code 43209 in 2022 through 116 contacts, or interactions (phone calls, emails, etc.). The average age of clients was 46 years.

In 2022, FCPH CHWs served **8 residents** of zip code 43209 through **116 contacts**.

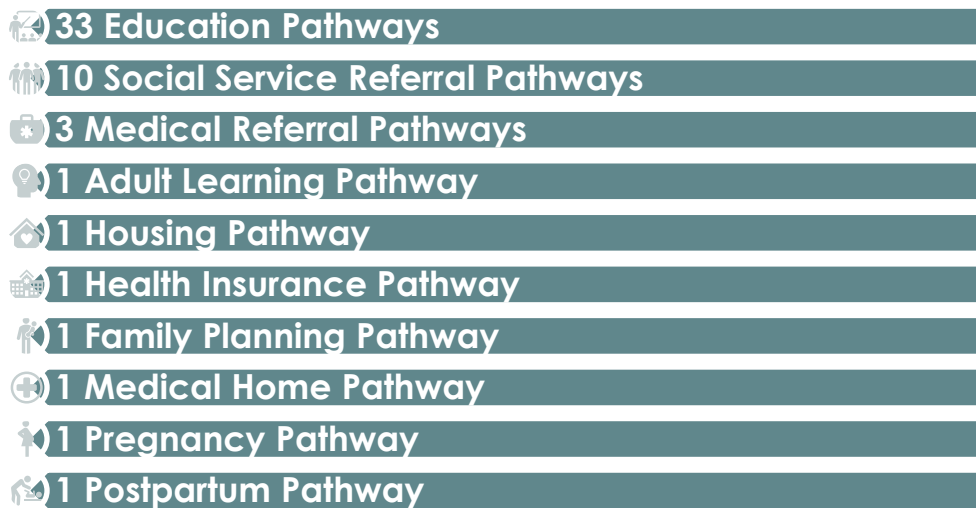
CHW Clients by Client Status, Residence Zip Code 43209, 2022



CHW clients living in zip code 43209 completed 53 total pathways in 2022. Examples of pathways completed by clients living in zip code 43209 include education, social services, adult learning, housing, health insurance, and family planning. CHW services are available to any other Bexley residents who are in need of CHW assistance and can be requested using the form [here](#).

In 2022, FCPH CHW clients living in zip code 43209 completed **53 total pathways**, education being the most common.

Community Health Worker Client Pathways Completed, Residence Zip Code 43209, 2022



## Health Promotion

FCPH's Health Promotion section works to promote healthier habits and environments throughout the Franklin County community. In 2022, FCPH was awarded the countywide Healthy Brain Initiative grant from NACCHO and the National Alzheimer's Association, running from November 2022- December 2023. The purpose of this grant is to integrate brain health (i.e., dementia, Alzheimer's) into our current

chronic disease prevention work. The cohort of selected local health departments meet monthly to receive guidance and mentorship in working with their local Alzheimer's Association chapter and other partners to increase brain health awareness in their communities.

### Active Living

The HSP Active Living Coordinator focuses on creating healthy communities by increasing access to physical activity opportunities and healthier environments. In 2022, HSP hosted a Spring Into Activity event open to all Franklin County residents, including Bexley residents.

### Community Health Action Teams (CHATs)

Community Health Action Teams (CHATs) are partnerships between FCPH and community members who live, work, or play in the CHAT community to work together to build healthier communities in Franklin County. Members represent a variety of sectors and interests, and CHATs can select pathways to focus on such as mental health & wellness or access to care. The city of Bexley does not currently have a CHAT, but there is the potential to establish a CHAT for the Bexley community by contacting [FCPHCHAT@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:FCPHCHAT@franklincountyohio.gov). Various CHATs have already been established throughout Franklin County (e.g., Westerville, Clinton Township, Prairie Township, Hilliard, etc.) with initiatives that include produce markets, Farm to School programs in schools, community naloxone trainings, Complete Streets policy implementation, and Safe Routes to school program implementation. Learn more about what our CHATs completed in 2022 [here](#).

### Healthy Food Access

In 2022, the Healthy Food Access Coordinator launched the Ohio Days Promotional Media Campaign to promote Ohio Days and National Nutrition Month. In May, they joined the Local Food Action Council to represent FCPH.

Through the Clinton Township CHAT, FCPH supports a produce market to distribute fresh produce to community members at no cost. In 2022, the produce market supported 13 community members belonging to 3 households living in zip code 43209. These households may have utilized the produce market multiple times throughout the year.

In 2022, **13 community members** from **3 households** living in zip code 43209 received fresh produce at the Clinton Township Produce Market.

Clinton Township Produce Market Recipients, Residence Zip Code 43209, 2022



## Emergency Preparedness

In 2022, FCPH's Emergency Preparedness (EP) section spent an estimated total of 450 hours through 18 EP staff working to prevent and address emergencies for the Bexley community.

The Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) is a Center for Disease Control (CDC) federal effort designed to increase bioterrorism preparedness in the nation's larger cities. The goal is to save lives in these cities by rapidly dispensing medication to their entire population within 24 hours of the decision to do so. Public Points of Dispensing (PODs) are designated dispensing locations for persons who are currently healthy but may have been "exposed" and need prophylactic (preventative) medication. PODs are the traditional method of providing prophylaxis in CRI.

The State of Ohio full-scale exercise (FSE) will be held in October 2023 to test the Central Ohio Region's ability to distribute medical countermeasures (MCMs) in the event of an anthrax attack with the operationalization of the Central Ohio Regional Drop Site (RDS) facility that will receive MCMs to prophylax the public. Any residents from Bexley would receive MCMs from this facility, planning for this exercise started in 2022 with approximately 80 hours of training, which includes both internal and external planning, review, creation of synopsis, educating exercise players and agencies, and multi-agency coordination.

In 2022, EP staff attended in-person Fire Chief and Police Chief meetings that were hosted at the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security once a month or quarterly, lasting approximately for one hour, where staff were able to provide public health updates as necessary, contributing a total of 100 hours of staff time on behalf of Bexley. The EP Section developed a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Plan to specifically address the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness within the Franklin County jurisdiction including the City of Bexley. The WASH Plan is intended to ensure that threats to public health are managed in accordance with FCPH guidelines and assure hazards such as sub-par sanitary services and waste management, contaminated water and media, and infectious disease outbreaks, are managed with the utmost emphasis on life and property preservation.

The FCPH Emergency Response Plan (ERP) serve as the operational framework for responding to all emergencies, minor disasters, major disasters, and catastrophic disasters that impact the public health and medical system in the county. The ERP was utilized during the COVID-19 pandemic along with other supporting Plans, attachments, annexes, and appendices to protect FCPH employees, the community, and partnering agencies/organizations. The ERP is continuously undergoing updates to incorporate planning, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery lessons learnt from the pandemic, as well as After Action Reports and Implementation Plans (ARR/IP).

The COOP plan ensures Franklin County will be able to provide public health services to the City of Bexley should FCPH normal operation be disrupted due to an emergency/incident.

The Medical Counter Measure (MCM) plan is the guidance FCPH uses to inform the residents of Bexley on what to do during a biological emergency. Each year the MCM plan is reviewed. Changes are made to ensure that the plan is robust and appropriate for the people it serves.

In 2022, FCPH accepted a grant from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) entitled “Addressing the Needs of People with Disabilities in COVID-19 Project”. This grant allowed FCPH to host a group of individuals from the disabilities communities to work through some of the short comings of the COVID-19 response. These individuals are from diverse communities in Franklin County and represent the various disabilities present within these communities. This project has educated our response partners and will allow for a better and safer experience for those individuals living in Bexley with a disability during an emergency. This project continues through the remainder of 2023 and FCPH will attempt to renew this funding for 2024.

In 2022, EP staff spent an estimated **450 hours** completing EP meetings and planning for the Bexley community.

Emergency Preparedness Meetings and Estimated Staff Time Dedicated to the City of Bexley, 2022

Type	Description	Number of Staff	Estimated Hours of Staff Time	Notes
<b>Meeting</b>	Monthly Fire Chief Meetings	1-2	80	Travel, preparation, & meeting.
<b>Meeting</b>	Quarterly Police Chief Meetings	1-2	20	Travel, preparation, & meeting.
<b>Planning &amp; Operational</b>	State of Ohio Full Scale Exercise – Regional Drop Site	5	80	Planning, education, training, & partner collaboration.
<b>Planning</b>	Emergency Preparedness Plans: ERP, COOP, MCM	5	50	Planning, updates, & edits.
<b>Planning</b>	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Plan	1-2	100	Creation of plan, TTX, & workgroup.
<b>Planning</b>	Addressing the Needs of People with Disabilities in COVID-19 Project Grant	1-2	40	Creation of Disabilities Advisory Council & planning.

## Epidemiology & Data

In 2022, HSP epidemiologists completed 45 internal and external data requests. Data requests completed by the team cover a range of topic areas, including gun violence, cancer, tobacco use, overdose, naloxone administration, suicide, housing insecurity, and more.

HSP Epidemiologists collaborated with the EP Section to complete an EP Community Needs Assessment Survey in 2022, which was open to Bexley residents and received responses from residents of zip code 43209. Additionally, FCPH epidemiologists conducted two other surveys that were sent to school nurses and staff, focusing on barriers to childhood immunization and dental health services in local schools. Both surveys were shared with contacts in the city of Bexley and both surveys collected responses from Bexley City School District. The results of the surveys were incorporated into the [Oral Health Plan for Franklin County Children](#) and the 2022 FCPH CHIP Immunization Intervention Plan.

In 2021 and 2022, HSP epidemiologists aided in the completion of HealthMap 2022 and the new community-facing data website, Franklin County Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Evaluation System (CARES). HSP epidemiologists partnered with Columbus Public Health and CelebrateOne to conduct a Perinatal Periods of Risk analysis to target infant mortality prevention in Franklin County, including Bexley. HSP epidemiologists also joined the Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition, with HSP Epidemiology Supervisor Abby Boeckman leading the Data and Research Action Team.

To submit a data request of your own directly to our team, please visit the [FCPH Data Hub](#) and click "Submit a Data Request."

## Sources

1. [Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Population Data](#)
2. [US Census Bureau American Community Survey](#)
3. Ohio Department of Health Secure Public Health Information Warehouse
4. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) PLACES: Local Data for Better Health
5. [Franklin County Comprehensive Addition and Recovery Evaluation System](#)
6. EpiCenter Health Monitoring System

Respectfully Submitted by: Theresa Seagraves, MHA, CTTS/Assistant Health Commissioner.