

## Indiana's maternity care crisis grows as Johnson Memorial Health becomes latest to close OB unit



Johnson Memorial Health has announced the closure of its obstetrics unit, highlighting Indiana's growing maternity care crisis. The hospital cites ongoing financial losses, low insurance reimbursements, and rising costs as key reasons. Since 2020, multiple hospitals across the state have ended maternity services, raising concerns about reduced access to care—especially for rural families who may now need to travel farther for childbirth.

A growing maternity care crisis in Indiana has led Johnson Memorial Health in Franklin to shut down its obstetrics unit, leaving local families without nearby childbirth services. The hospital says it has been losing millions of dollars each year providing maternity care, making it financially unsustainable to continue. The decision is largely driven by low reimbursement rates from Medicaid and Medicare, along with rising healthcare costs. Hospital leaders explained that government insurance programs often pay far less than the actual cost of care, while private insurers also delay or reduce payments, adding to the financial strain.

This closure is part of a larger trend across the state. Since 2020, 16 hospitals in Indiana have stopped offering obstetrics services, and several hospitals have shut down entirely over the past decade (WRTV Indianapolis). Many rural hospitals, in particular, are struggling to maintain these services due to low patient volumes and high staffing costs. Healthcare leaders warn that without changes to reimbursement policies, more hospitals may be forced to cut essential services or close altogether. The loss of maternity care units raises concerns about access to care, especially for families in rural communities who may now need to travel farther for delivery services.

As Johnson Memorial phases out its maternity services, dozens of staff members will lose their jobs, and patients will need to transition to other providers. Hospital officials say they are working on plans to help ensure continued care, but the long-term outlook for maternity services in the region remains uncertain.

## Portable Pools

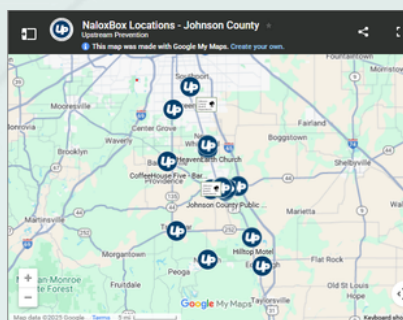
**Fence Them! Cover Them! Put Them Away!**

Portable pools vary in size and height, from tiny blow-up pools to larger designs that hold thousands of gallons of water. They are easy to use, affordable and fun for the family. But portable pools can be deadly and present a real danger to young children.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that from 2011 to 2013, submersion fatalities associated with portable pools averaged 19 deaths each year for children 4 and under.

### Safety Tips for Portable Pools

- Empty and put away smaller portable pools after every use.
- Once the pool is set up, ensure high levels of supervision.
- Fence portable pools and encourage your neighbors to do the same.
- Cover larger portable pools and put access ladders away when adults are not present.
- Install alarms on doors leading from the house to the pool area that will alert you when someone enters the pool area.
- Teach children to swim, float and other basic life-saving skills; do not consider young children "drown-proof" because they have had swimming lessons.
- Make sure your neighbors, babysitters, and visitors know about the pool's presence in your yard.
- Learn and practice CPR so you can help in an emergency.



## Naloxbox Locations in Johnson County

A Naloxbox holds free, readily available intranasal (sprayed through the nose) Naloxone.



## Community Resources

We are here to support your health and wellness needs. Click the link to find information about our local resources available to you.

## PUBLIC HEALTH DAY

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, several staff members had the opportunity to attend Public Health Day at the Indiana Statehouse. The event celebrated investments in public health, featured insights from policy leaders and officials, and provided a chance for networking along with light refreshments. Additionally, awards were presented to several exceptional local health departments.



## Purdue 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Empowerment Summit

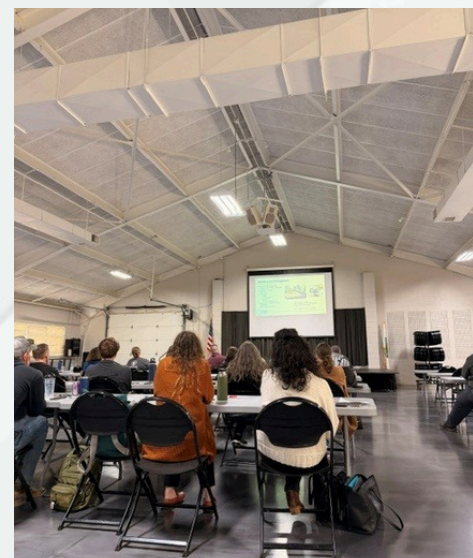
On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Purdue University held its Annual Health Empowerment Summit at the Purdue Memorial Union. Our staff members had the privilege of attending this event, which provided valuable health insights into emerging health technologies. The program included three speaker panels and introduced the Purdue Pitch Engine Competition. This summit presented an exceptional opportunity to explore how these innovations can profoundly influence the healthcare landscape.



## IDOH PEST SEMINAR

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, our Environmental Health Specialists attended a training session organized by the Indiana Department of Health. The main goals of this training were to deepen our understanding of the factors influencing indoor air quality, particularly concerning mold.

Furthermore, the training highlighted the distinctions between cockroaches, including how and where to identify them in restaurants. There was also a session dedicated to mosquito control. However, we were informed that the Indiana Department of Health has lost funding, which means that there will be no state-sponsored mosquito control this summer.



# Employee Spotlight: Kiley Leugers

Nursing Department: Kiley Leugers, RN, TB Case Manager

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## 1. How long have you been with the health department, and what is your current role?

"I have been here for 10 years this May as a TB Case Manager."

## 2. What are some of the key services you provide to the community?

"I provide support for individuals receiving TB testing, treatment, and follow-up care. I help coordinate TB skin or blood tests, chest x-rays, medical appointments, and follow-up on results. I help clients with treatment for latent TB infection and active TB disease by providing medications, monitoring side effects, and promoting medication adherence through Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) in person or by video. Additional support may include education, transportation assistance, referrals to community resources, and ongoing case management to help ensure successful treatment completion."

## 3. What are some of the biggest health challenges you see in our community right now?

"There is an ongoing need to educate healthcare providers on the importance of testing and treating latent TB infection to prevent future active TB disease. In addition, increasing provider awareness of the signs and symptoms of possible active TB can help improve early identification, timely treatment, and reduce transmission within the community."

## 4. What has been the most rewarding part of your job so far?

"I would say building strong relationships with patients and providing support throughout their treatment. It is wonderful to see patients improve, regain their health, and successfully complete treatment. Helping people overcome barriers to care and knowing you played a part in their recovery makes the work highly fulfilling."

## 5. What do you enjoy most about working in the health department?

"I especially value the relationships I have built with the people I work with. I also appreciate the great schedule, which provides a healthy work-life balance."

## 6. What advice would you give to someone considering a career in public health nursing?

"In public health you must be willing to learn, stay flexible, and care about helping others. The work can be challenging at times, but it is very rewarding because you can make a difference in the community. Good communication, patience, and compassion are also important."



Thank you, Kiley. We sincerely appreciate your unwavering commitment to serving the community and the compassionate care you provide to individuals throughout their TB treatment journey. Your daily impact is truly valued.

# Department Update

## Number of monthly inspections

	Food	Pool	Tattoo
January	106	1	0
February	141	4	8
March	139	2	4

## Number of monthly tests

	January	February	March
HIV	2	5	15
TB Skin Test	23	24	24
Blood Lead	3	5	0
QFT (TB Blood Draw)	11	9	10
Chlamydia	2	4	13
Gonorrhea	2	4	13

## Monthly Births and Deaths Report

	Birth	Death
January	34	110
February	45	92
March	33	121

## Mobile Integrated Health

Public service in Johnson County's White River Township and Greenwood aims to reduce Emergency Department visits and 911 calls.

Key points include:

- Community outreach to connect individuals to resources.
- Services offered:
  - Home medical equipment assistance
  - Medication education
  - Fall prevention and home safety checks
  - Home modifications (e.g., wheelchair ramps, grab bars)
  - Assistance with hoarding or unsafe living conditions
  - Transportation assistance
  - Housing assistance
  - Food assistance
- Peer support and recovery services available

**464-240-6425**

**[paramedicine@co.johnson.in.us](mailto:paramedicine@co.johnson.in.us)**

## Community Partners and Organizations



# Upcoming Community Events

2026							APRIL						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
12	13	14	15	16	17	18							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25							
26	27	28	29	30									

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Earth Day

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>** - IEHA Spring Conference

**April 29<sup>th</sup>** - Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition

- Public QPR Training via Zoom

2026							MAY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2							
3	4	5	6	7	8	9							
10	11	12	13	14	15	16							
17	18	19	20	21	22	23							
24	25	26	27	28	29	30							
31													

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kids Bicycle Safety Rodeo | Franklin American Legion

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** - Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition

- Public QPR Training via Zoom

**May 14<sup>th</sup>** - DCS; Resource Fair at 10:00AM

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** - IDEM Indoor Air Quality Training

**May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Franklin Cove Apartment Health Event at 3:30PM-5:30PM

2026							JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6							
7	8	9	10	11	12	13							
14	15	16	17	18	19	20							
21	22	23	24	25	26	27							
28	29	30											

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** - Greenwood Pride at Woodmen Park from 2:00PM - 6:00PM

**June 13<sup>th</sup>** - Recovery Cafe Basketball Tournament Fundraiser

**June 20<sup>th</sup>** - RISE Coalition Glow Run at the Franklin Amphitheater at 8:15 PM

**June 24<sup>th</sup>** - Franklin County Suicide Prevention Coalition

- Public QPR Training via Zoom

Stay safe and well,  
**Johnson County Health Department**

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