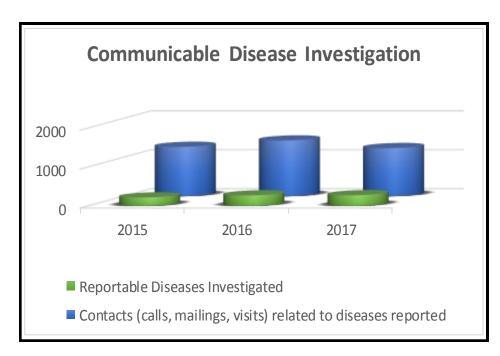
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

A basic responsibility of your Fulton County Health Department (FCHD) is to monitor disease activity in the community. By law, physicians, laboratories, and hospitals are required to report certain diseases to the health department. These reportable diseases are ones that can cause serious health problems for the person and the community. First, the health department staff try to figure out where a person came in contact with the disease. Then they work to prevent further spread in the community. Your health department is particularly concerned with keeping vaccine-preventable



diseases at bay. Another priority is to contain diseases that can be transmitted in the food supply.



Public health nurses, sanitarians, a n d epidemiologists follow-up on reported diseases and suspected outbreaks according to the protocols established by The Ohio Department of Health and The Centers for Disease Control. If several people become ill after eating at a social event or food establishment, health

department staff work to determine what food may have caused the illness. They also educate residents on ways to prevent disease including frequent and thorough handwashing, proper food storage and preparation, and control of mosquitos to prevent mosquito-borne illnesses.