



Hamilton Township, Mercer County

Division of Health, Recreation
and Senior & Veteran Services

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Division of Health 2025 Annual Report



TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON
Department of Health, Recreation, Seniors, and Veterans Services

2100 Greenwood Ave, Hamilton, NJ 08609



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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Message from the Director

I am pleased to present our 2025 year-end Annual report. Inside you will gain insight into the work of the Hamilton Township Division of Health, whose mission is to protect the health and well-being of our Hamilton residents. The achievements highlighted in the 2025 Annual Report would not be possible without the expertise and dedication of our Hamilton Division of Health staff.

Our division is comprised of the following sections: Public Health, Environmental Health and Animal Control Services. Each of our sections are dedicated to providing high quality services to our community within the challenges and opportunities encountered in the evolving public health and healthcare environments.

Animal care is another key component of a healthy community and this section maintains the highest standards of humane animal sheltering; promotes the placement of animals into homes; and encourages responsible pet ownership through education, enforcement, and community partnership.

The Division of Health achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in 2025, marking a significant milestone in the Division's commitment to excellence and continuous quality improvement. Following the submission of its accreditation application in 2024, the Division successfully met PHAB's rigorous standards while continuing to deliver the high-quality, reliable public health services our residents expect and deserve.

Thank you to Mayor Martin, his Administration, and our Township Council for their ongoing support of our Department. Our team will continue to work hard in protecting the health and safety of all those we are so privileged to serve in our community.

Yours in Health,

Kathleen Fitzgerald, RN, BSN, CALA, CDP
Director of Health



Message from the Health Officer

Outlined within this document is a comprehensive snapshot of the significant work completed by Division staff throughout 2025. Regardless of the public health challenge, our team continues to demonstrate dedication, compassion, and effectiveness in serving the Hamilton community. The Division remains committed to its core responsibility: preventing disease, promoting healthy behaviors, and protecting the health and safety of all residents.

In 2025, the Division reached several important milestones that reflect years of preparation and collaboration. Most notably, the Division of Health **achieved full accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)**. This accomplishment affirms our adherence to nationally recognized standards and demonstrates our commitment to accountability, quality improvement, and excellence in public health practice.

The Township also continued its strong focus on community wellness. Hamilton once again earned recognition as a “Healthy Town” through the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute, building on prior designations in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Through the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign, residents were offered a variety of free programs and educational opportunities designed to support healthier lifestyles and community connection.

Throughout 2025, the Division continued to respond to the evolving health needs of the community. This included providing health education and outreach, maintaining readiness for public health emergencies, strengthening environmental and animal health programs, and working to ensure that all residents have healthy places to live, work, and play.

This year’s goals are by the end of 2026:

1. Prepare for a seamless transition to the new municipal building.
 - a. This is a key component of our 2025-2027 Strategic Plan
2. Achieve recognition once again as a “Healthy Town” from NJHQI.
3. Maintain a “no-kill” shelter status (90% or higher live release rate).

Thank you again for taking the time to review the division’s annual report.

In good health,

Christopher Hellwig, MPH MCHES
Health Officer



Contact Information

Division of Health	
<u>Administration</u>	609-689-5562
Director	(Director) 609-890-3686
Health Officer	
Accounts Receivable/Payable	
<u>Public Health Nursing</u>	609-890-3884
Health Education	hamnurse@hamiltonnj.com
Childhood Vaccinations	covidvaccine@hamiltonnj.com
Flu / Pneumonia Vaccinations	
STD Clinic	
Infectious Disease Investigations	
<u>Environmental Health</u>	609-890-3828
Inspections and Licensing	environmental@hamiltonnj.com
Public Health Nuisances	
<u>Vital Statistics</u>	609-890-3826
Marriage Licenses	vitalstats@hamiltonnj.com
Certified Copies of Marriage, Birth, and Death Certificates	
<u>Animal Shelter</u>	609-890-3550
Animal Control	animal-shelter@hamiltonnj.com
Adoption Inquiries	
Dog Licensing	
<u>After Hours and Holidays (HTPD)</u>	609-581-4000
<u>Complaints or Service Requests (HamStat)</u>	609-586-0311



Division staff participating in wear red day.

Visit Hamilton Division of Health Online

www.hamiltonnj.com/health

www.hamiltonnj.com/animalshelter

Like us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/HamiltonTwpNJ

www.facebook.com/HamiltonAnimalShelter

Follow us on Twitter at:

@HamiltonTwpNJ

Like us on Instagram at:

@HamiltonTwpNJ

@HamiltonTownshipAnimalShelter

Mission, Vision, Values

The Township of Hamilton Division of Health serves as the local health authority for the township. Under the guidance of Mayor Martin, Director Fitzgerald, and the Hamilton Board of Health, the Division of Health is responsible for the program areas of public health nursing, environmental health, vital statistics, health licensing, administration, animal control, sheltering, and adoptions.

MISSION

The mission of the Division of Health is to serve as a trusted resource for Hamilton Township to improve the health and well-being of our residents through health education and promotion, enforcement of public health safety, and adopting to ever-changing community health needs.

VISION

The vision of the Division of Health is to create a culture of health by increasing accessibility and promoting health equity through honest and credible services and community engagement.

VALUES

The values of the Division of Health are Professionalism; Reliability; Accessibility; Integrity; Community-Minded

Township of Hamilton Board of Health

New Jersey Statute requires that each municipality have a Board of Health. Boards of Health, depending on the municipality's form of government, can be advisory, autonomous, or the town council. In Hamilton Township, the Township Council serves as the local Board of Health, under the Faulkner Act. The Council must go out of session as the municipal government and convene as the Board of Health.

The Board of Health's role is to ensure a reliable and efficient public health system exists in Hamilton. Additionally, the Board of Health is responsible for the oversight of the activities of the Division of Health as they pertain to NJAC 8:52, the public health practice standards of performance for local boards of health in New Jersey.

The Health Officer provides updates to the Board of Health throughout the year on the state of the Township's health. Future meeting dates, along with agendas and minutes are posted on the Township's website: www.hamiltonnj.com/council.

2026 Board of Health Members	
Pasquale "Pat" Papero, <i>President</i>	Nancy Phillips, <i>Vice President</i>
Anthony Carabelli	Richard Tighe
Charles F. Whalen	

Organization Chart

Division of Health	
<u>Director</u>	Kathleen Fitzgerald
<u>Health Officer</u>	Chris Hellwig
<u>Administration and Vital Statistics</u> Jessica Purdy - Supervisor Chief of Administrative Services	Sarah Papadem - Registrar Heather Pizza - Sen Clerk Typist / Dep Reg VACANT - Clerk Typist
<u>Environmental Health</u> Lisa Surtees - Supervisor Chief REHS	Kelly Thomas - Senior REHS Eric Cuperwich - REHS Randy Donovan - REHS Brielle Spadola - Health Aide*
<u>Public Health Nursing</u> Giovanna Guarraggi - Supervisor Admin Director of Nursing	Jill Belviso - Asst PHN Supervisor Anita Masiello - Senior PHN Kelly Colton - Senior PHN Patricia Buczynski - PHN Christine Santoro - Head Clinic Nurse* Veronica DeSisto- Health Educator* Mamai-ee Freeman - Health Aide* Jill Rudd - Senior Clerk Typist
<u>Animal Shelter</u> Donielle Gioia - Supervisor Management Specialist	Marion Munford - ACO Anthony Agabiti - Asst ACO Jay Schutz - Asst ACO Shaquille Pennerman - Asst ACO Nolan DeVoe - Animal Attendant Philip Barnaba - Animal Attendant Michaela Meleg - Animal Attendant Jeremy Button - Animal Attendant Jocelynn VanHandel - Animal Attendant Ken Kirsch - Animal Attendant Genesis Minaya - Animal Attendant (PT) VACANT - Animal Attendant (PT) VACANT - Animal Attendant (PT) Donna Peroni - Senior Clerk Typist Faith Dobry - Volunteer Coordinator (PT)
<u>Hamilton Alliance Against Substance Abuse (HAASA)</u>	Chris Hellwig - Alliance Coordinator*

*Grant funded positions

Division of Health Staffing	
Number of Employees/Positions	34
Number of Per Diem Employees	2
Number of Volunteers	139
Number of Contract Organizations	2

Demographic and Health Profile of Hamilton

Health starts in our homes, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and communities. Most residents have heard the recommendations of a healthier lifestyle: seeking preventative care, not smoking, eating more fruits and vegetables, and getting regular exercise. But, did you know that where you live has an important role in you and your loved ones' health? According to HealthyPeople 2030, which is a set of national health objectives, our health is also determined in part by access to social and economic opportunities; the resources and supports available in our homes, neighborhoods, and communities; the quality of our schooling; the safety of our workplaces; the cleanliness of our water, food, and air; and the nature of our social interactions and relationships. In the tables below, are selected characteristics intended to provide a quick glance at the indicators that play a role in determining the health of Hamilton residents.

Table 1. US Census Bureau (2024) Demographic Characteristics for Hamilton Township, NJ

Demographic Characteristic	Measure
Total Population	93,911
Veteran Population	3,683
Disabled Population	7.9%
Age	
Persons under 18 years	20.1%
Persons over 65 years	19.3%
Race and Ethnicity	
White alone	65%
Hispanic or Latinx	21.5%
Black or African American alone	13.4%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latinx	58.7%
Asian, alone	4.4%
Two or more races	9.1%
Education	
High school graduate or higher, persons 25+ years	92.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher, persons 25+ years	35.1%
Income	
Median household income	\$97,481
Persons in poverty	6.8%

Table 2. BRFSS 2017 Age-Adjusted Comparison of Health Indicators for Hamilton Township (n=81) and Mercer County (n=540), NJ

Health Indicator	Hamilton Twp. (2017)	Mercer County (2017)	Mercer County (2024)
Fair or Poor Health Status Reported	24.3%	16.9%	14.6%
Adults with at least one chronic condition	12.3%	14.0%	21.6%
Diabetes	5.3%	9.3%	8.1%
Pre-Diabetes	7.0%	11.6%	No data
Angina or Coronary Heart Disease	5.6%	3.5%	No data
Cancer, other than skin cancer	7.4%	5.5%	4.0%
Frequent mental distress	3.8%	16.8%	13.3%
Obese, individuals 20+	27.8%	28.0%	30.4%

Table 3. Comparison of Mortality Data (deaths due to any cause) between Hamilton Township and Mercer County, NJ, 2023 Mortality Statistic

Mortality Statistic	Hamilton Twp.	Mercer County
Avg. age at death, 2000-2019, years	75.4	73.7
Age-Adjusted Rate, Deaths per 100,000 population	679.6	666.7

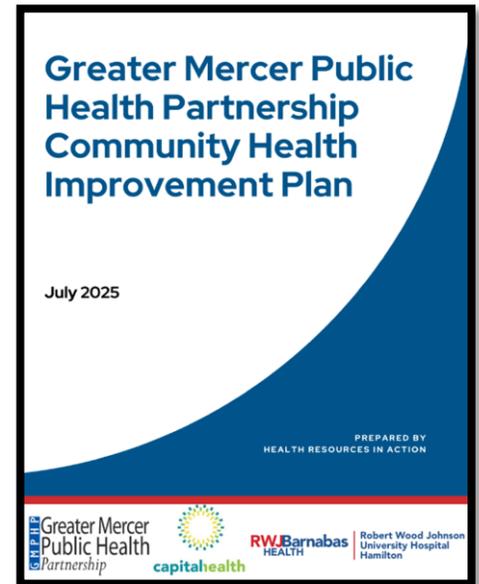
Community Health Assessments

The Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership (GMPHP) is a collaboration of local hospitals, health departments, human and social services agencies, and other not-for-profit organizations, which jointly work to measurably improve the health of residents of the Greater Mercer County community.

In July 2025, GMPHP finalized the most recent Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP uses the community health data from the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) to identify specific goals to implement over the next three years to improve the health and wellness of our community.

The priority areas identified include:

- Mental and Behavioral Health
 - Goal: Mercer County nourishes the mental health and wellness of all, promoting a healthier community.
- Access to Wellness
 - Goal: All in Mercer County have equitable access to physical, social, and economic resources to achieve their own optimal health and wellness.
- Housing and Built Environment
 - Goal: Everyone in Mercer County has a place to feel safe and call home in a thriving community.
- Maternal and Infant Health
 - Goal: Women and infants in Mercer County have equitable access to quality care and resources across the continuum to improve health outcomes.



More information on the CHNA and CHIP can be accessed online: www.hamiltonnj.com/health

The Community Health Survey conducted in 2024 to inform the new Community Health Needs Assessment and Improvement Plan (CHNA/CHIP) included open-ended response for residents to share thoughts and concerns. The Division reviewed this qualitative data specifically for Hamilton Township residents to further understand health concerns within the community.

The question asked was "Use the space below to expand on a topic previously mentioned or an important health-related topic that was not mentioned in this survey that you believe is important for when planning health and community services." The Division analyzed the comments collected to this question for responses connected to Hamilton Township zip codes (08619, 08690, 08610, 08620, 08629, 08691, 08501, 08609, and 08650). There were 1,210 respondents to the survey within these zip codes, 194 of them had a response to the open-ended question (16% of the responses).

The 194 comments were analyzed using content analysis in Microsoft Excel. Three separate staff members at the Division read the comments independently to identify common patterns among words and phrases. Each comment was categorized into the theme(s) it represents, and then totals are calculated to see which themes appear most often across all comments. Results were compared between the three different analyses to identify the most common patterns and themes.



The most common themes that emerged from the data included healthcare access, mental health, healthcare quality and health insurance concerns. The word cloud shows all of the themes that emerged from the data.

Review of the qualitative data from the Community Health Survey provides greater insight into the health concerns among Hamilton residents. The recurring themes highlight gaps in access, affordability, and quality of care across healthcare, housing, and community services. Many of the comments centered on concerns with accessing healthcare, issues with insurance and coverage and the quality of care received from healthcare providers. It was also evident that mental health is a significant concern among residents highlighting the cost of care, provider availability, accessible resources, education on mental health and call for local programs for mental health conditions.

The health of specific populations are of concern including older adults, people with disabilities, children and pregnant/postpartum women. A common theme intertwined with comments included cost of living and financial struggles when it came to housing, food and healthcare. Transportation issues centered around two common concerns, first, lack of public transportation and difficulty getting to and from appointments. The second centered around pedestrian safety and traffic volume on the roads making residents feel unsafe driving, walking or biking.

This data highlights the wide variety of social conditions that affect health and wellness within the community, also known as social determinants of health (SDOH) - the conditions in the environment where people live, learn, work and play that affect health and quality of life.

The qualitative and quantitative data from the Community Health Survey is a valuable resource for the Division in the development and revision of programs to help meet resident health needs. The priority areas identified in the CHIP (Mental & Behavioral Health, Access to Wellness, Housing and Built Environment and Maternal and Infant Health) directly relate to the themes from the open-ended responses from residents.

Upstream policy and systemic changes are needed to result in substantial improvements to healthcare access, quality, health insurance and cost of living concerns. At the local level modifications to programs, resource sharing and partnerships have the opportunity to help inform and connect residents to existing resources and services. The Division will utilize the comments from this survey and other data sources to help provide programs, connections and support to residents to help them reach their health and wellness needs over the next few years.

What does Public Health do?

The Hamilton Township Division of Health (HDOH) works tirelessly to protect and improve the health and well-being of our community, as well as the environmental resources upon which we all depend. Since 1900, the average lifespan of U.S. residents has increased by more than 30 years, with 25 years of this gain attributable to advances in public health, such as:

Vaccination	Safer and healthier foods
Motor-vehicle safety	Healthier mothers and babies
Safer workplaces	Family planning
Control of infectious diseases	Fluoridation of drinking water
Decline in deaths from coronary heart disease and stroke	Recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard

Today, HDOH, along with our sister agencies across New Jersey and the country continue to promote health and wellness. The Division of Health...

- **Protects you from health threats.** HDOH works to prevent disease outbreaks and makes sure the water you drink, the food you eat, and the air you breathe are all safe. The Division is also ready to respond to any health emergency – be it bioterrorism, Ebola, food-borne diseases, rabies, Legionnaires' disease, COVID-19, or Monkeypox (MPX).
- **Educates you and your neighbors about health issues.** HDOH provides you with information that helps you to make more healthful decisions, like exercising more, eating right, quitting smoking, and washing your hands to protect yourself from communicable diseases. During a public health emergency, we also provide important alerts and warnings to protect your health.
- **Provides healthy solutions.** HDOH offers the preventive care you need to avoid disease and maintain your health. The Division took the lead in Mercer County and launched COVID-19 vaccination for eligible residents in December 2020. The Division continues to provide annual flu vaccines to all township residents and the pneumonia vaccine to residents aged 65-older. Eligible children receive the immunizations required to attend school and prevent diseases. Additionally, the Division provides confidential STD testing, screening, and treatment to residents.
- **Advances community health.** HDOH takes part in developing new policies and standards that address existing and emerging challenges to our township's health while enforcing a range of laws to help keep our residents safe. The Division stays up-to-date with research and staff training to maintain expertise and deliver up-to-date, cutting-edge health programs.



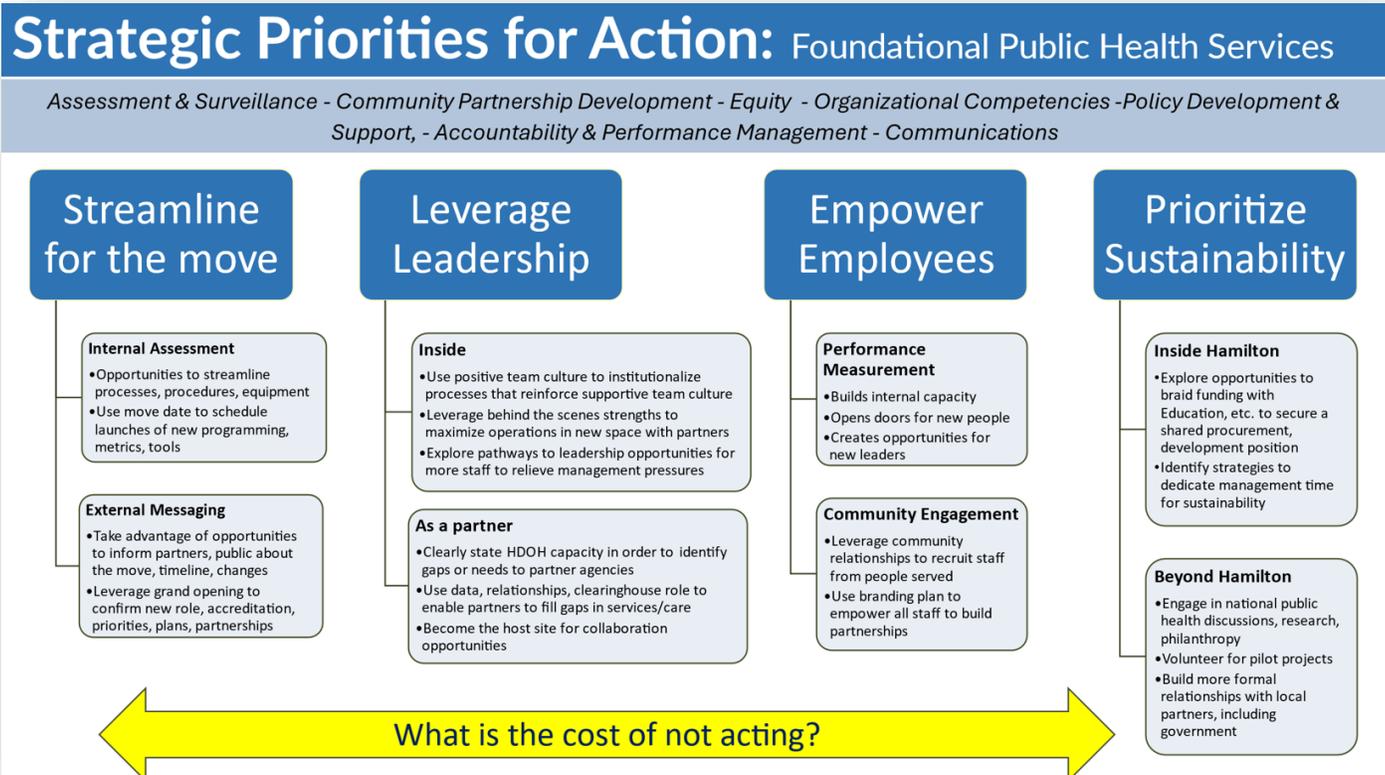
Administration

The Office of the Health Officer within the Division of Health plans and executes the decisions needed to ensure continued compliance with all applicable rules, laws, and guidelines set by township, state, and federal agencies. Additionally, the Health Officer is in charge of:

Financial Management	Strategic Planning
Public Information	Workforce Development
Record Keeping	Inter-Governmental Affairs
Personnel Management	Public Health Enforcement

	2023	2024	2025
Total number of OPRA requests filled	351	377	473
Animal Shelter related requests	164	144	197
Environmental/Public Health requests	187	198	276
Approximate number of staffing hours spent filling requests	80	80	86
Approximate cost of staff time spent filling requests	\$2,585	\$2,672	\$4,311

The Division of Health, with the assistance of a consultant, conducted strategic planning sessions in order to prioritize and guide the Division’s actions over the next three (3) years. The below infographic illustrates our four priority areas: 1) streamlining for the move to the new municipal building, 2) leverage our leadership skills, 3) workforce development, and 4) become more sustainable. Within each priority area, are objectives for the Division to work on.



Accreditation

In 2025, the Division of Health continued our journey with National Health Department Accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB).

Accreditation measures the Division's performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused, and evidence-based standards.

Accreditation has many benefits including improvements in the areas of quality, workforce development, emergency preparedness, community partnerships, health equity and overall accountability and use of resources.



In June 2025, the Division welcomed staff from PHAB to Hamilton to complete the site visit, the final step of the Accreditation journey. During the visit the PHAB site visit team toured the Division building, met with staff, community partners and our Governing Entity to discuss the operations and experiences working with the Division.

In August 2025, the Division was honored to be one of only five in the nation to receive initial accreditation, joining the ranks of just 454 nationally accredited health departments. New Jersey is comprised of 565 municipalities served by 103 local health departments; we are proud to stand alongside the New Jersey Department of Health and six other county and local departments that have achieved national accreditation. Accreditation reflects our ongoing commitment to excellence and brings several key benefits:

- Strengthens our department internally, enabling us to better serve the community
- Promotes continuous quality improvement and workforce development
- Increases our capacity to respond to public health emergencies
- Provides assurance to our partners and the community that we follow best practices and evidence-based approaches rooted in community needs

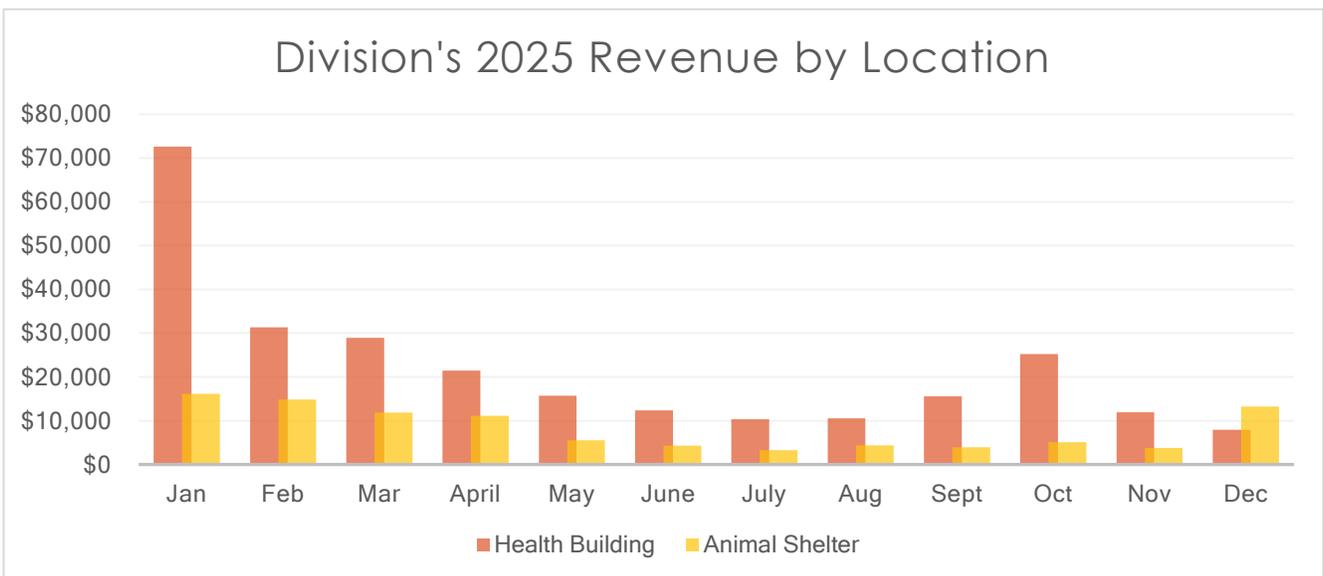
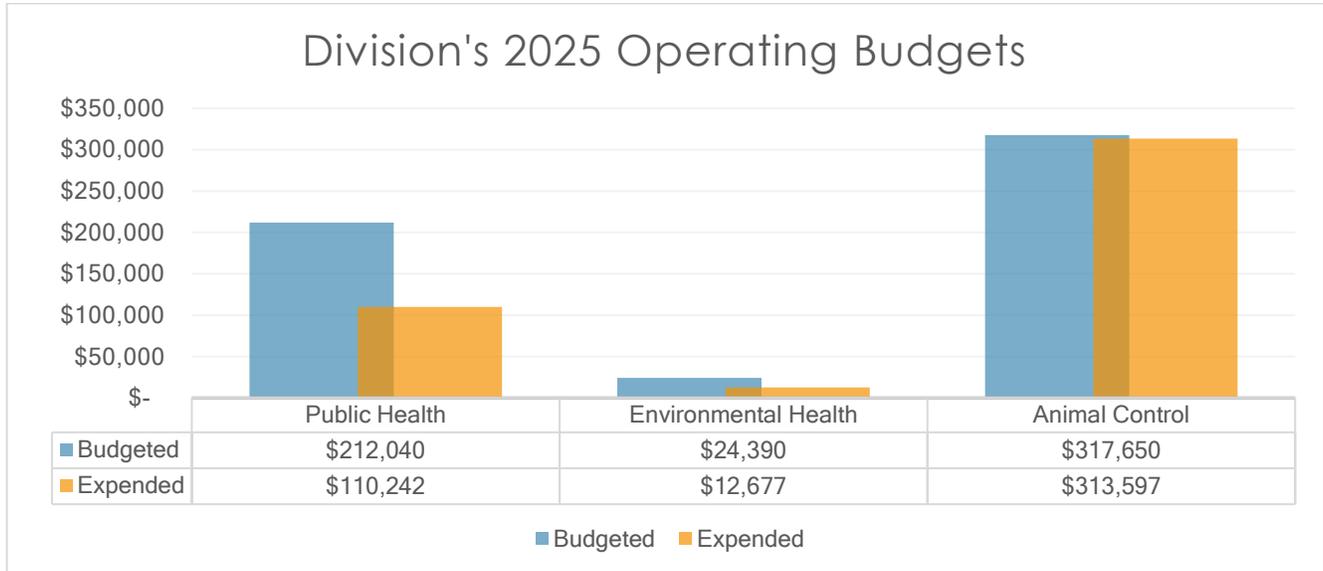
HDOH partners speaking with PHAB staff during the June 2025 site visit.



Financial Management

One of the main responsibilities of the Office of the Health Officer is to monitor the financial health of the Division. This includes ensuring that bills are paid in a timely manner; staff have the resources needed to complete their jobs; applying for grants to offset costs to the Township; and being responsible stewards of taxpayers' dollars.

The chart below displays the Division's appropriated budgets verse what was actually spent. Grants continue to help offset expenses usually charged to Environmental and Public Health. Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, the grant outlook looks limited.



This chart shows the gross revenue of the Division. Revenue is made through the collection of fees for licenses, plan reviews, vital records, adoptions, and insurance reimbursements. The beginning of the year sees the greatest revenue due to license renewals, while a spike occurs in the fall due to insurance reimbursements for vaccinations.



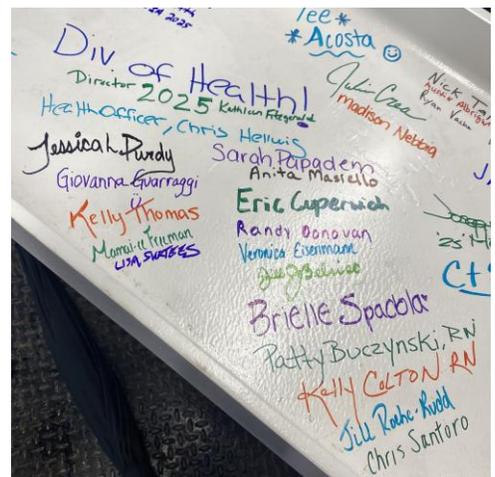
Left: Staff at the NJPHA Conference and Awards Dinner.

Grants allow the Division to expand or launch new programs to improve the wellbeing of Hamilton Township without placing the burden solely on Township tax dollars. Each grant mandates that the Division meet certain deliverables and report on the progress quarterly. Additionally, most state grants are awarded according to state fiscal year (SFY) which runs from July 1 - June 30, each year.

Grants awarded in 2025	
Township Program - Funder - Grant Name	Amount
<u>Municipal Alliance</u> - Governor's Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse - <i>Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction</i> fund	\$40,811
<u>Public Health</u> - New Jersey Assoc. of County & City Health Officials - <i>Sustaining Local Public Health Infrastructure</i> grant (continuation from FY25)	\$193,000
<u>Public Health</u> - New Jersey Department of Health - <i>Strengthening Local Public Health Capacity</i> Program grant	\$64,788
<u>Public Health</u> - New Jersey Assoc. of County & City Health Officials - <i>Enhancing Local Public Health Infrastructure</i> grant (continuation from FY23)	\$1,221,443
<u>Environmental Health</u> - New Jersey Department of Health - <i>Childhood Lead Exposure Prevention</i> grant	\$184,592
TOTAL	\$1,704,634

Public health tends to see large influxes of grant funds following health emergencies (H1N1, Ebola, COVID-19, etc...), which taper off and eventually end. The grants the Division received in response to the COVID-19 pandemic have been extremely important in allowing the Division to scale up and meet the needs of the Township's residents.

Division of Health staff signed a beam, which was installed in the new Hamilton Municipal Building.



Public Health Services

The Division of Health employs Public Health Nurses and Health Educators to provide health promotion services to our residents in Hamilton Township as well as the residents of the municipalities the division maintains shared services agreements. The nurses and staff in the Public Health Nursing Section work closely with all the sections of the division in order to support the following services:

Flu and Pneumonia Vaccinations	Health Education
Childhood Immunizations	STD Screening and Treatment
Childhood Blood Lead Screenings	Communicable Disease Investigations
School Immunization Audits	Public Health Clinics

Childhood health

	2023	2024	2025
Individual Children Seen in Clinics	609	623	485
Childhood Immunizations Administered	1,661	1,790	1,305
Blood Lead Level (BLL) Screenings	27	20	17
Reported Children with Elevated BLLs	13	70*	93
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Enrollment	253	214	TBD**
Children Tested for Anemia (Iron Deficiency)	28	20	17
School Immunization Records Audited	5,844	5,787	5,767

*Reference point for elevated blood lead levels was lowered to 3.5, which increased case load.

**Data not provided at time of publication



Division of Health and Board of Health Members with our Accredited Health Department Plaque.

FREE VISION SCREENING

Date/Time:
Monday, August 18, 2025
2PM-5PM

Location:
Hamilton Township Division of Health:
2100 Greenwood Ave, Hamilton, NJ, 08609

Vision screenings are performed by trained screeners from the NJ Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired - [Project BEST!](#)

SCREENING DETAILS

Participants will receive a **visual acuity screening for distance** and an **eye pressure check for glaucoma** suspect. After the screening you will review your results and get follow-up instructions if needed.

WHO CAN GET SCREENED?

Adults and children (ages 3+) are welcome at the screening. The screening is free for both insured and uninsured residents!

If you haven't had your eyes checked in a while, make an appointment today! Great to do before going back-to-school!

APPOINTMENT REQUIRED
Contact us to schedule!

609-890-3825
HamHealth@HamiltonNJ.com

Annual School Immunization Audit Analysis

Each year the Division's Public Health Nurses conduct routine immunization audits of student records in schools across the Township. These audits take place to ensure children attending the Township's public and private schools have all the required immunizations mandated by the State. Schools must have proof of the students' immunization history or proof of exemption. Ensuring adherence to immunization requirements limits the spread of vaccine preventable diseases.

2025 Immunization Audit Statistics			
School Category	Number of Records Audited	Percentage of schools that received 100% compliance on their original audit	Percentage of Schools that required a re-audit
Daycares and Pre-Schools	1,924	44%	56%
Private and Religious Schools - Pre-K	155	75%	25%
Private and Religious Schools - Kindergarten	195	50%	50%
Private and Religious Schools - 6 th Grade	161	67%	33%
Private and Religious Schools - Transfers	198	78%	22%
Public Schools - Pre-K	269	100%	0%
Public Schools - Kindergarten	864	67%	33%
Public Schools - 6 th Grade	958	50%	50%
Public Elementary School - Transfer Students	513	44%	66%
Public Middle School - Transfer Students	164	75%	25%
Public High School - Transfer Students	366	50%	50%
Totals all schools	5,767	64%	37%

Communicable Diseases

The Public Health Nursing Section is responsible for the investigation of all NJDOH reportable communicable diseases that occur within Hamilton Township residents. The nurses provide case management with medical providers and residents to ensure that all the required information is collected to prevent the further spread of disease, proper treatment is given, and the diagnosis is correct. The nurses also work closely with congregate settings, schools, and high-density housing located within the township on any outbreaks, which may occur.

DISEASE NAME (2025 Confirmed Cases*)	COUNT
INFLUENZA	1735
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS - 2019 NCOV	574
CHLAMYDIA	295
GONORRHEA	64
HEPATITIS C	27
OTHER	25
HEPATITIS B	17
SALMONELLOSIS - NON TYPHOID	10
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIAE	10
CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	8
STD OTHER	8
GIARDIASIS	6
STREPTOCOCCUS PYOGENES (GAS) - WITHOUT TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME	6
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	5
SHIGELLOSIS	5
TOTAL	2,795

*Preliminary data - Municipality-level data with values less than five could lead to the identification of individuals and therefore are not released publicly without accompanying interpretation.

Seasonal Respiratory Vaccinations

Each year, the Public Health Nurses offer Hamilton residents their annual seasonal flu vaccine at no out-of-pocket costs. The flu clinics are held each fall throughout the township. Additionally, the nurses will make home visits to residents who may be homebound. Residents who are eligible for the pneumonia vaccine are also able to receive it at no out-of-pocket cost from the Division of Health.



	2023	2024	2025
Number of flu clinics held	21	26	24
Total number of flu vaccines administered	1,691	1,616	1,514
Number of High-Dose flu vaccine administered	497	492	416
Total number of pneumonia vaccines administered	54	35	18
Total number of home visits made for vaccination	61	52	45

Clinics are held throughout the community including at the Nottingham Firehouse, Hamilton Senior Center, Hamilton Public Library, Wilson Center, Bromley Center, Project Freedom, 55+ Living Communities, the YMCA, and at Oktoberfest. In addition, the Division of Health staff performed home visits for homebound residents within the community.

Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Treatment Program

Hamilton residents diagnosed with Tuberculosis (TB) are required to complete antibiotic treatment under the observation of a Public Health Nurse in order to prevent the spread of TB in the community. Treatment schedules can range from a few months to over a year depending on the strain of TB, and the resident's compliance. The Public Health Nurse visits the residents' home daily to ensure the medication is taken, this is called Directly Observed Therapy (DOT.) The Division also conducts PPDs, which is a skin test for TB. **The Division has started offering virtual DOTs.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of residents placed under DOT	1	1	0
Number of home visits conducted	66	5**	0
Number of PPDs conducted	124	157	99
Number of positive PPDs referred for follow up	5	5	5

Internships and Clinical Education

The Division of Health strongly supports the training of future public health and nursing professionals. The division provides real world community experience for students interested in public health and nursing. Students assist within the clinics, inspections, and outreach under the guidance of a mentor.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of College/University affiliation agreements	3	2	3
Total number of interns/student nurses	15	23	10



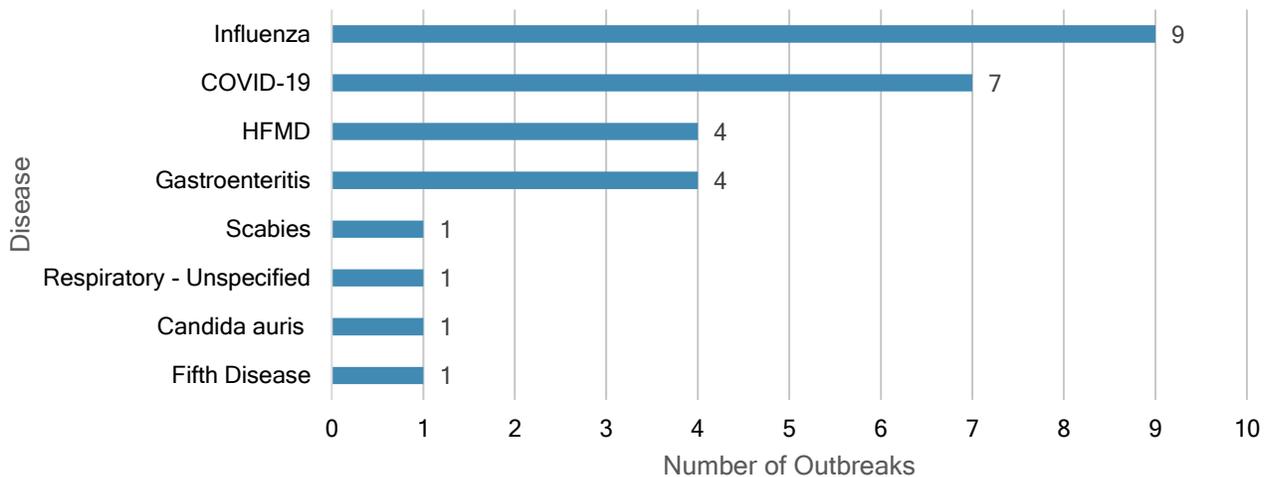
Left: Public Health Nurses with their VFC Outstanding Provider Award. Top: Division Staff and Mayor Martin with residents at the annual Senior Center Picnic.

Outbreak Investigations

In addition to conducting investigations for individual instances of certain diseases, the Public Health Nurses case manage outbreaks in settings such as long-term care (LTC) facilities, schools, workplaces, and youth organizations. Outbreaks are defined differently based on the specific disease and may be declared if several individuals who exhibit similar symptoms are in the same room, same wing or attended a common event; there is an increase in absences with report of similar symptoms; two or more individuals are diagnosed with the same reportable disease; or a single case of a highly infectious disease exists or is suspected to exist. The PHN assigned to the outbreak will work closely with the facility to ensure proper infection control measures are implemented, sick individuals are either excluded from participation or isolated and helps the facility perform contact tracing and case investigation.

Outbreaks and investigations by Exposure Setting	2023	2024	2025
Daycare facility	6	4	8
Healthcare - Assisted Living Residence	13	8	3
Healthcare - Long Term Care	18	13	9
Healthcare - Acute Care Hospital	1	-	1
Healthcare - Outpatient	1	-	-
Community	1	-	-
School or University	4	4	7
Sports Team	-	1	-
Total	44	30	28

Count (n=28) of Reported Communicable Disease Outbreaks in Hamilton Township, Mercer County, in 2025, by disease category.



Left: Public Health Nurses provided then candidate for Governor, Mikie Sherrill, her annual flu shot at the Township's Oktoberfest.

Preventing Legionnaires' Disease

Tips for Homeowners to maintain healthy household water

Legionella bacteria can grow in many parts of a water system that are continually wet, and certain devices can then spread water containing the bacteria. Examples of areas where *Legionella* can grow and spread include: water storage tanks, water filters, faucets, aerators, showerheads, hoses, pipes, hot tubs, and humidifiers.

Home air conditioners are NOT at risk because they do not use water to cool the air

Tips for a healthy home:

	Run faucets and showers for 3 minutes when they have not been used for more than a week		Remove, shorten, and/or regularly flush existing dead legs (a section of pipe with low use)
	Follow manufacturer instructions and clean/replace water filters in your home		If you are at risk for Legionnaires' disease avoid high risk activities (ex: power washing)
	Clean or replace shower heads and faucet screens when buildup is visible, follow manufacturer instructions	A hot water tank set to a temperature of 140°F is best for controlling Legionella. The minimum temperature should be 120°F. If the temperature on the tank is higher than 120°F a mixing valve must be installed to prevent burns. Drain and flush hot water tank per manufacturer instructions, consider hiring a professional.	
	Follow manufacturer instructions for medical devices and humidifiers		Follow manufacturer instructions to maintain proper chemical levels in your hot tub
			Turn off and drain garden hoses when not in use for the season

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): www.cdc.gov
 NJ Department of Health (NJDOH): www.nj.gov/health

November 2022

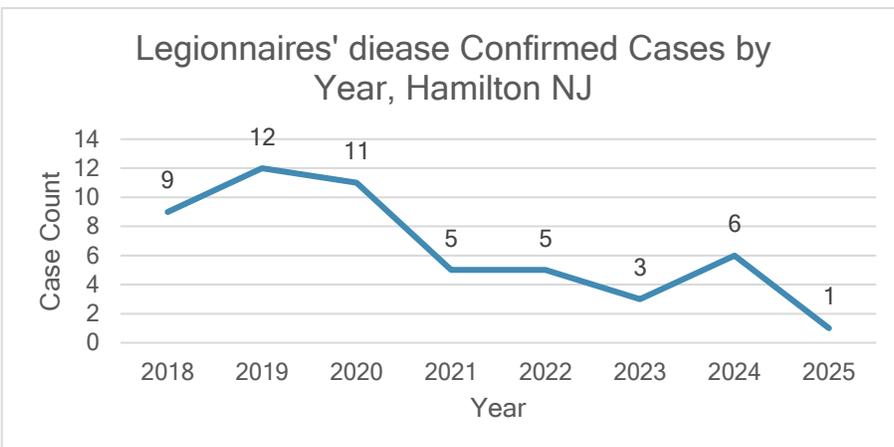


Legionnaires' disease

Legionnaires' disease is a respiratory illness caused by bacteria, and is a type of pneumonia that people can get after breathing in aerosolized water (small droplets of water in the air) containing Legionella bacteria. Symptoms of Legionnaires' disease include cough, shortness of breath, fever, muscle aches, and headaches, which are similar to symptoms caused by other respiratory infections, including COVID-19. Most healthy people exposed to Legionella do not become ill. However, people who are 50 years or older, especially those who smoke cigarettes, or those with certain medical conditions, including weakened immune systems, chronic lung disease or other chronic health conditions, are at increased risk for Legionnaires' disease. Legionnaires' disease is treatable with antibiotics so it is important that anyone who thinks they have symptoms of Legionnaires' disease contact their health care provider and seek medical evaluation.

The Township of Hamilton has been working with Trenton Water Works (TWW) and its partners at NJDEP, and NJDOH, to investigate cases of Legionnaires' disease within the Township for over 10-years. The Township and its partners have issued multiple press releases, social media posts, and mass mailers to every TWW customer in regard to our investigation of Legionnaires' disease within the Township. Additionally, there have been numerous news reports covering this. All of these outreach attempts were to better educate our residents.

For more information, residents can call HamStat, the Division of Health, or visit www.hamiltonnj.com/legionella.



Top: Mayor Martin addresses residents at the TWW hosted townhall meeting.

COVID-19

In 2025, the Division continued to respond to COVID-19 through outreach and vaccination. The Division uses grant funds to support COVID-19 efforts and public health obligations. That work includes:

Contact tracing	Case investigation
Long Term Care (LTC) outbreak coordination	School guidance
Technical assistance to businesses	Health education
Vaccination	Test-kit distribution

COVID-19 Test-Kit Distribution

Since 2023, the Division has been provided with home COVID-19 test kits from the New Jersey Department of Health. Home test kits were distributed to residents at community events, health fairs, to schools, community centers, 55+ living communities and more! In 2025 although less kits were provided to distribute; they did test for both Flu A/B and COVID-19. Contact the Division of Health for free at-home test kits while supplies last.

	2023	2024	2025
Test-kits distributed	7,299	6,993	4,043

COVID-19 Vaccination

The Division did not purchase any private stock of the COVID-19 vaccine but remains a vaccine provider for the uninsured population through the state 317 funds program for adults and the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. The Division also receives allotments of state-funded vaccine, which is available to the greater community. As COVID-19 vaccination continues to be available to the Division, it will be offered to eligible residents.

	2023	2024	2025
Total number of COVID-19 vaccines administered	529	72	130



Top Left: Division of Health staff providing tour of the new mobile clinic to Senator Greenstein. Top Right: Division of Health’s new mobile clinic.

Community Outreach and Partnerships

The Division participated in ongoing community outreach to provide resources and health education on various health topics. The Division's health education section maintains information and resources on local services for residents to utilize; this includes an inventory of social services.

The inventory of social services is available for residents to access on the Division's website: www.hamiltonnj.com/health.

Outreach and health education efforts in 2025 involved partnerships with local organizations to deliver health information and resources to residents. This included a variety of community events, health education programs and wellness activities. The Division's health education team participated in 76 community outreach events in 2025. Health Education activities include:

- Health education programs on diabetes, heart health and infection control
- Kids health and wellness programming at the Hamilton Area YMCA afterschool programs and summer camp
- Wellness Walks in Hamilton's parks with the Mayors Wellness Campaign
- Attending various health fairs and community events
- Facilitating community health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol and vision
- Developing media materials on health and wellness (flyers, social media posts, newspaper ads)
- Supporting and coordinating vaccination clinics
- Distribution of COVID-19/Flu home test kits
- Providing referrals and answering questions on health-related topics

HDOH
Values in Action!
**Community
Minded**

The Health Education staff are dedicated to helping improve the health and wellness of the Hamilton community.



Health education and outreach staff at the YMCA (top) and National Night Out (left).

Community Wellness

The Division’s staff promote wellness throughout the Township by participating or organizing events and activities. Health should be accessible to everyone. The Division sponsors activities that align with our vision of creating a culture of health here in Hamilton. Activities include:

Health Education	Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)
Coalitions and Partnerships	Mayor’s Wellness Campaign



Throughout the year, the Division of Health partners with the Mayor’s Office and other Township departments and agencies to deliver free and accessible wellness programming directly to the community.



Right: participants walk at Hamilton’s Grounds for Sculpture as part of the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign.



Adult Health Services

Throughout the year, the Division of Health operates clinics that provide certain community health services for the Township's residents. These services include the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinic, Nursing Evaluation Clinic, and Community Home Evaluations. The Division's health services are overseen by the Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) who works with the Public Health Medical Director to ensure that standing orders are in place for all procedures being performed by the nursing staff and that best practices are being followed.

STD Clinic

Hamilton Township provides free and confidential STD Clinical services for the residents of the following municipalities through shared-service agreements:

Ewing Township	East Windsor Township
Hightstown Borough	Hopewell Township (Including Hopewell and Pennington)
Lawrence Township	Princeton Township
Robbinsville Township	West Windsor Township

	2023	2024	2025
Total clients seen in clinics	224	273	225
Hepatitis B screenings performed	21	16	2
Hepatitis C screenings performed	22	16	9
HIV Screenings performed	150	180	156
Oral screenings for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea	170	200	178
Urine screenings for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea	169	182	184
Syphilis screenings performed	161	184	169
Vaccines administered during clinic	22	86	131
JYNNEOS (MPX) vaccines administered	45	62	6

Note: In 2020, the STD clinic was closed during certain periods. In 2022, HDOH and NJDOH collaborated to restart free and confidential HIV screenings within the STD clinic. The MPX vaccine, JYNNEOS, was offered starting in September, 2022 to eligible residents.

Nursing Evaluation Clinic

This clinic is offered monthly, by appointment, at both of the Senior Centers in Hamilton Township (Hamilton Township Senior Center and the John O. Wilson Neighborhood Center). Blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol tests are performed and referrals made when indicated.

	2023	2024	2025
Health assessments performed	111	324	204

Community Home Evaluations

The Division will make home visits based off referrals to assess and follow up on public health concerns/situations by other agencies as well as individuals. They range in ages of infant through adulthood as well as elderly/senior citizen referrals. Services include vaccinations, neglect issues, and public health concerns.

	2023	2024	2025
Home visits conducted	61	52	45

Environmental Health Services

The Division of Health's Environmental Health Services section is responsible for the enforcement of State Sanitary Codes; the protection of food and potable water supplies; environmental health activities and public health nuisances. In addition to inspections, this section also is responsible for licensing all retail food establishments, recreational bathing facilities, vending machines, camps, and body art establishments. This section performs the following services for the township:

Body Art Program	Public Health Nuisance Program
Childhood Lead Program	Youth Camp Program
Retail Food Program	Wastewater Control Program
Public Recreational Bathing Program	Animal Facilities Program

Wastewater Control Program

In order to prevent the pollution of the Township's water supply, the Division ensures compliance with local and state rules for the installation of residential septic systems. Staff review all plans for new construction, alterations, and repairs for septic systems within the township. Additionally, the staff review septic systems before real estate transactions.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of properties with septic systems	541	559	571
Permits issued for construction or alteration	14	21	19
Properties reviewed for real estate transactions	19	15	13

Private Well Testing Act

Environmental Health staff review private well water analysis results for compliance with NJAC 7:9 during real estate transactions.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of wells reviewed for real estate transactions	14	16	10

Body Art

Environmental Health Services inspects tattoo, piercing, and permanent cosmetic facilities operating within the Township to ensure proper sanitation and safety standards are being followed. Starting in 2021, these facilities will be licensed by the Division of Health.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of Body Art establishments operating	4	3	5

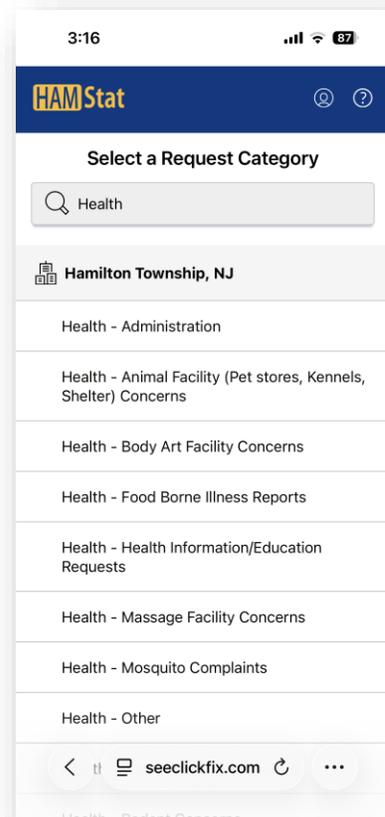
Retail Food Establishments

The Division of Health inspects and regulates restaurants, grocery stores, and other retail food facilities to ensure compliance with safety and sanitation rules. The Environmental Health staff work closely with the Public Health Nurses to investigate and control disease outbreaks linked to retail food facilities. The division also licenses these facilities.

Licenses	2023	2024	2025
Number of Retail Food Establishment licenses issued	535	555	563
Number of Full Year-Temporary/Mobile licenses issued	58	83	88
Number of Vending Machine licenses issued	160	207	100
Number of Temporary Single-Event licenses issued	206	266	242

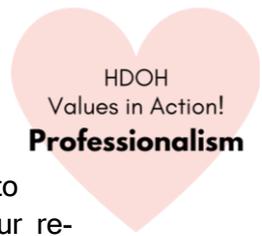
Inspections and Investigations	2023	2024	2025
Number of routine inspections completed	554	577	597
Number of re-inspections completed	167	159	154
Number of pre-operational inspections completed	36	34	34
Number of retail food plan reviews completed	35	23	23
Number of complaint driven investigations completed	69	65	88
Number of Notices of Violations issued	216	294	362

Bottom left: This year's Environmental Health "intern" learning about time management. *Did you know* the Division of Health accepts and trains interns as part of our Workforce Development Plan? Students looking for internships can complete a Township Application. Bottom right: Submit a complaint or service request right from your phone! <https://hamiltonnj.com/hamstat>



Retail Food Establishment Inspection Analysis

The Division's REHSs use a risk-based inspection method to ensure establishments comply with NJAC 8:24. They are graded on 52 measures. If an establishment receives a "Conditionally Satisfactory" score during an inspection, the establishment is given time to correct issues and will be re-inspected. If the establishment fails to receive a "Satisfactory" score, it is required to pay a re-inspection fee. After four re-inspections during a two-year period, the establishment must close until all violations are abated. Each licensed retail food establishment is assigned a "risk-type" based on the types of food the establishment sells or prepares. The tables below illustrate the types of inspections conducted will the score that was given by risk-type.



A marginal decrease was observed in the overall compliance rates of Routine 1 inspections from 2024 (78.4%) to 2025 (78.3%). The inspection frequency of Risk 3 & 4 establishments remained at twice a year in 2025 due to previous low compliance rates. This led to an increase in overall routine inspection compliance rates from 43.5% in 2024 to 63.6% in 2025. Most notably, the compliance rates of Risk 3 & 4 establishments increase from their first routine inspection to their second (54.5% to 72.7%) in 2025. Lastly, the compliance rates of Risk 3 Routine inspections decreased from 60.1% (2024) to 53.3% (2025). In 2025, \$22,650 in Re-Inspection Fees were collected from Retail Food Establishments.

Risk 1 Establishments				
Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Complaint	7			
Emergency Response	2			
Pre-Operational	9		9	
Change of Owner	2		2	
Recall	1			
Routine 1	108	6	102	
Routine 2				
Re-inspection 1	6		6	
Re-inspection 2				
Re-inspection 3				
Spot Check	14			
Walkthrough	1			
Total	148	6	118	
Risk 2 Establishments				
Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Complaint	30	1	1	
Emergency Response	9			
Pre-Operational	17		17	
Change of Owner	4		4	
Food Borne Illness	1	1		
Recall	2			
Routine 1	280	43	237	1
Routine 2	34	5	28	1
Re-inspection 1	46	4	41	1
Re-inspection 2	15	1	4	
Re-inspection 3	1		1	
Re-inspection 4	1		1	
Spot Check	41		3	1
Walkthrough	2			
Total	466	53	333	4

Risk 2/4 Establishments				
Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pre-Operational	1		1	
Routine 1	2		2	
Routine 2	1		1	
Total	4		2	

Risk 3 Establishments				
Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Complaint	31	3		1
Emergency Response	4		1	
Pre-Operational	7		7	
Change of Owner	2	2		
Food Borne Illness	1	1		
Recall	1			
Routine 1	144	64	80	
Routine 2	6	5		1
Re-inspection 1	69	18	50	1
Re-inspection 2	19	1	18	
Re-inspection 3	1		1	
Re-inspection 4	2		2	
Spot Check	20		1	3
Walkthrough	0			
Total	298	88	157	6

Risk 3/4 Establishments				
Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Complaint	2			
Emergency Response	1			
Routine 1	11	4	6	1
Routine 2	11	1	8	2
Re-inspection 1	9	2	7	
Re-inspection 2	1		1	
Spot Check	2			
Total	37	7	22	3

All Establishments				
Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Complaint	70	4		1
Emergency Response	16			2
Pre-Operational	34		34	
Change of Owner	8	2	6	
Food Borne Illness	2	2		
Recall	4			
Routine 1	545	117	427	1
Routine 2	52	11	37	4
Re-inspection 1	130	24	130	
Re-inspection 2	25	1		
Re-inspection 3	2		2	
Re-inspection 4	1		1	
Spot Check	77		6	4
Walkthrough	3			
Total	953	161	643	12

The Division posts the inspection scores of all inspected retail food establishments online via www.hamiltonnj.com/environmentalhealth.

Youth Camps

In order to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the youth who attend camps within the Township, the Division of Health conducts inspections of these facilities. NJDOH is the licensing agency for youth camps.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of inspections completed	14	15	13

Public Recreational Bathing

Environmental Health Services conducts safety and sanitation inspections of public recreational bathing facilities to reduce the spread of communicable diseases and protect consumers who use these facilities from avoidable harm and danger.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of licenses issued	32	33	35
Number of inspections completed	108	127	161

Public Recreational Bathing Inspection Analysis

All establishments must receive a Routine 1 inspection and only 66% of establishments passed this inspection. Year Round establishments receive a Routine 2 inspection and only 67% of establishments passed this inspection.

Reason For Inspection	Total Inspected	Conditionally-Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Complaints	2			
Spot Checks/Water Follow-ups	61		4	10
Pre-Operational	21		16	5
Routine 1	35	12	23	
Routine 2	12	2	8	2
Re-inspection 1	23	4	17	2
Re-inspection 2	6	1	5	
Re-inspection 3	1		1	
Total	161	19	74	19

In 2025, there was a significant increase in public recreational bathing water analysis failures. A total of 49 failures were recorded during the calendar year, compared to 10 in 2024 and 7 in 2023. Out of 35 Public recreational Bathing Facilities, 18 (51.4%) experienced at least one failure. A total of 49 failures were identified. Of these failures, 31 (63.3%) occurred at facilities supplied by Trenton Water Works, 12 (24.5%) at facilities supplied by Aqua, and 6 (12.2%) at facilities using private well water. Most of the failures occurred at indoor facilities, with 30 (61.2%) identified as indoors, whereas 19 (38.8%) were outdoor facilities. By disinfection method, 21 (42.9%) occurred at facilities using liquid chlorine, 11 (22.4%) at facilities using tablet chlorine, 13 (26.5%) at facilities using salt cell systems, and 4 (8.2%) at facilities using bromine.

Childhood Lead – Environmental Interventions

Starting July 1, 2023, the Division of Health took over nursing case management for children residing in Hamilton with elevated blood lead levels from the City of Trenton. The Division of Health's Environmental Health Services section continues to conduct the environmental interventions within the homes of children identified with high levels of lead.

	2023	2024	2025
New cases of children with EBLLs	13	8	12
Number of homes completing lead abatement	2	8	7

Animal Facilities

Starting in 2020, the responsibility of inspecting the Township's animal facilities was transferred from the Township's Animal Control Officers to the Environmental Services Staff. The Division of Health inspects kennels, pet shops, shelters, and pounds to ensure that these facilities are operating in compliance with sanitation, safety, and animal welfare rules.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of licenses issued	5	6	6
Number of routine inspections completed	5	6	6

Massage/Somatic Establishments

The Division of Health enforces safety and sanitation standards for these facilities in order to protect the health and safety of consumers who patronize massage and somatic facilities. Licenses are issued by the Township's Clerk's Office.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of inspections completed	10	18	12

Public Health Nuisances

The Environmental Health Services staff conducts investigations into quality of life complaints that pose a nuisance to Township residents. In 2020, the responsibility investigating property maintenance (high grass and weeds, junk, rubbish, debris, etc.) related complaints was transferred to the Department of Community and Economic Development which explains the large reductions in NOV's being issued by Environmental Health Services*.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of complaint driven investigations completed	155*	114	92
Number of Notices of Violations issued	27	36	26

*New data point for 2023



What's wrong with this photo?

The Division's inspectors look for a number of items as part of their risk-based inspections of retail food establishments. One of those items is food storage. Food should not be stored on the ground, and raw meat should not be stored above produce!

Vital Statistics

The Vital Statistics section of the Division of Health is charged with the responsibility of maintaining records in regards to marriages, births, and deaths that take place within the Township. The Registrars process applications for marriages and civil union licenses; issue birth, marriage, civil union, domestic partnership, and death certificates; and issue disinterment and burial permits. Additionally, the Registrar can assist with certain corrections to these records.

	2023	2024	2025
Home birth or birth en-route	10	9	2
Certified copies (birth, marriage and death certificates) issued	4,240	3,927	3,998
Marriage licenses issued	538	628	598
Domestic Partnership certificates issued	2	2	0
Domestic Partnership registrations issued	1	0	0
Civil Union certificates issued	0	0	0
Civil Union registrations issued	0	0	0
Disinterment permits issued	6	3	0
Burial permits issued	1	0	0
Corrections requested	134	88	104



Left: Four-legged friends are allowed at many of our Mayor's Wellness Walks throughout the year.
Below right: Some of Hamilton's finest supporting the shelter.

Below left: Health Officer and Councilman at IOAD



Animal Shelter and Adoption Center

The Hamilton Township Animal Shelter and Adoption Center (HTAS) serves as the Township's rabies control facility which ensures the health, safety, and welfare of the animals and citizens of our community. The Shelter's goal is to place animals into humane environments through adoption, and to educate the community on responsible pet ownership. HTAS works tirelessly so that the animals in its care are afforded the "Five Freedoms."

Freedom from discomfort	Freedom from hunger and thirst
Freedom from pain, injury, and disease	Freedom to express normal behavior
Freedom from fear and distress	

Animal Intake and Outflow

	2024			2025		
Animal Intake	Dogs	Cats	Other	Dogs	Cats	Other
Surrendered by owner	4	21	0	1	33	0
Stray/Impounded	262	256	14	265	213	2
Animals received from other organizations	0	2	0	1	0	0
Other (cruelty investigation, animal bite, etc.)	25	16	0	17	8	1
TOTAL	291	295	14	284	254	3

	2024			2025		
Animal Outflow	Dogs	Cats	Other	Dogs	Cats	Other
Reclaimed by owner	178	18	4	172	12	0
Adopted	85	235	12	84	214	2
Euthanized	10	20	0	7	12	0
Animals transferred to other organizations	10	3	2	12	5	2
Other (escaped, died at shelter, etc.)	1	11	0	0	6	0
TOTAL	284	287	18	275	249	4

Animal Control Services

The Division of Health's Animal Control Officers (ACOs) are charged with enforcing the Township's animal control laws and responding to animal emergencies. The ACOs respond to animals at large, transporting sick and injured animals, investigating animal bites, assist with rabies clinics, and provide public education. Additionally, the ACOs work closely with the Hamilton Police Department's Humane Law Enforcement Officers (HLEOs) on animal welfare and cruelty investigations.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of field calls	3,215	4,890	4,655
Number of animal bite investigations	126	130	122
Number of summonses issued	91	82	86
Number of wildlife transported to rehabilitation centers	98	79	83

	2023	2024	2025
Number of dog licenses issued	3,664	3,741	3,648
Number of free rabies vaccinations administered	870	870	851



Animal Shelter staff at the Shelter building.

DID YOU KNOW? In 2025, HTAS had an **65% return rate of stray dogs** to their owners. All dogs entering the shelter as strays are photographed and posted on the shelter’s Facebook page and shared by shelter staff to local Lost and Found Pages (Hamilton Area and Mercer County). There was a slight increase in reclaims year over year. This is still significantly higher than the 2024 state average for stray dogs redeemed, which is only 36%

Unfortunately, cats continue to have a dramatically lower reclaim rate, approximately 6%, similar to the state average.

Source:
http://www.nj.gov/health/vph/shelter_pound_summary_county_2024.pdf

Foster Program

The shelter initiated a foster program to assist with space and the well-being of the animals in the care of Hamilton Township. Some animals are very stressed in the shelter environment and/or need more individual care.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of animals fostered	126	150	106

Transfer Program

HTAS initiated a rescue/transfer program to assist in maximizing lifesaving efforts and placement of adoptable animals. Approved rescue organizations with different or more resources often assist with medically or behaviorally challenging animals.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of animals transfer to other organizations	20	15	17



Left: New signage at the Animal Shelter based on resident feedback.
 Right: Princeton student volunteers created animal gift bags to assist adopters in welcoming home their new family members.



Volunteers

The volunteer program at HTAS has been revised, including the agreement/waiver packet that all volunteers must complete prior to beginning their volunteer service. More information on how to volunteer is available online at www.hamiltonnj.com/animalshelter.

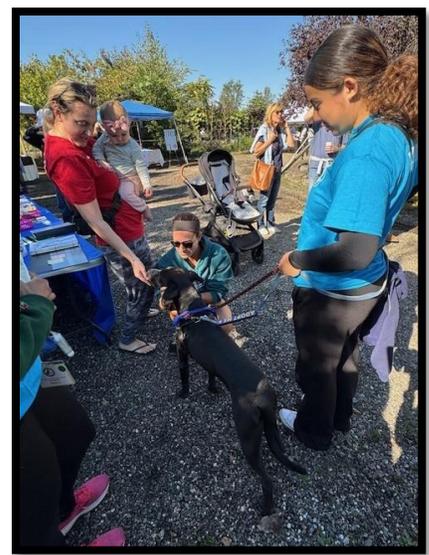
	2023	2024	2025
Number of volunteers	68	52	139
Number of volunteer hours	2,110	2,460	4,018
In-kind value of volunteer hours*	\$71,360	\$82,385	\$139,786

*Source: [Independent Sector](#)

2025 Shelter Volunteer Summary

In 2025, the Division created a new position of Volunteer Coordinator to focus on expanding and improving our volunteer program. The shelter uses Volgistics as our online database for tracking volunteer statistics.

		2025
Number of volunteer hours		4,018
Cat socialization		2,433 (61%)
Dog walking		1,381 (34%)
Buddy program training		44 (1%)
Off-site events		100 (3%)
Other duties (administrative, housekeeping, etc.)		60 (1%)
Number of training sessions		46
Volunteer orientation sessions		23
Number of attendees		112
Dog behavior and defensive handling skills sessions		19
Number of attendees		71
Buddy program training sessions		4
Number of attendees		14
Number of off-site events		9



Left: Donation from residents behind Finley Fright Night.
 Center: ACO Agabiti captures a squirrel based on a complaint.
 Right: Volunteers doing public outreach for the shelter.

Non-Live Outcomes

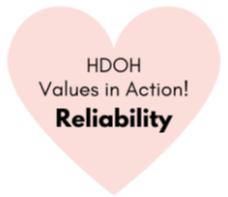
Unfortunately, not all animals that come to the shelter are placed into their “forever” homes. Some animals are terminally ill, others die during treatment, and others present a public safety or public health risk. The Division of Health takes the decision of euthanasia extremely seriously and with humility, and as such the Shelter Management Team makes those decisions jointly. HTAS is proud to be a no-kill shelter.

Euthanasia	2024				2025			
	Dogs	Cats	Other	Total	Dogs	Cats	Other	Total
Aggression, Unsafe to Handle, Court Order	5	0	0	5	2	0	0	2
Cancer	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Failure to thrive	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Major organ failure	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1
Medical – severe	5	11	0	16	3	9	0	12
Medical – emergency	0	4	0	4	2	2	0	4
Medical – Seizures	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	10	20	0	30	7	13	0	20

Died in care	2024			2025		
	Other	Cats	Total	Other	Cats	Total
Neonatal Kitten	0	4	4	0	0	0
Post-surgical	0	1	1	0	1	1
Other	0	1	1	0	0	0
Unknown	1	3	4	2	4	6
Medical – disease	0	1	1	0	2	2
TOTAL	1	10	11	2	7	9

2025 Annual Live Release Rate: 96%

The Annual Live Release Rate is calculated by dividing total live outcomes (adoptions, outgoing transfers, and return to owner/guardian) by total outcomes (total live outcomes plus euthanasia not including or died/lost in shelter/care). The generally accepted live-release rate to be considered a no-kill shelter is 90%, which HTAS is proud to exceed.



Municipal Alliance Commission

The mission of the Hamilton Alliance Against Substance Abuse Committee (HAASA) is to serve as the official Township coordinating body for the planning, awareness and education of substance abuse prevention efforts on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The committee is dedicated to promoting safe, healthy and responsible lifestyles through community involvement, education programs and family oriented events for all residents of Hamilton Township. HAASA is advisory in nature; and awards State allocated funds to programs that meet certain criteria.

Residents looking for more information can visit www.hamiltonnj.com/haasa or email haasa@hamiltonnj.com.

Membership

	Type
VACANT	Chair
Jessica Nitti	Regular
Janice Archambeault	Regular
Miesha Stanley	Regular
Brian Birch	Regular
Lindsay Pianin	Regular
Kristin Seitz	Regular
Alejandro Battle	Representative of the Superintendent of Schools
Timothy Donovan	Representative of Chief of Police
Jessica Hammill	Representative of Presiding Judge
Richard Tighe	Council Liaison
Cashel Darvas	Representative of the Mayor
Melissa Hutchinson	Commission Secretary
Chris Hellwig	Coordinator

Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder (GCSUD, formerly GCADA) funds HAASA. HAASA uses the funds to support coordination of the alliance, and to provide drug and alcohol education in the Township's schools.

	2023	2024	2025
Number of students reached	944	1,503	1,780
Number of education sessions	46	77	61
Number of schools supported	7	8	13



Left: Mayor Jeff Martin speaking at the International Overdose Awareness Day event in Vet's Park.





Thank you for taking the time to read through the Division of Health's 2025 annual report.
Have a happy, and healthy 2026!!
- Your Health Team



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Division of Recreation 2025 Annual Report

**Hamilton Township, New Jersey
Department of Health, Recreation and Seniors and Veteran Services**

2388 Kuser Road, Hamilton, NJ 08690



A Message from the Hamilton Township Division of Recreation

It is with great pleasure that we present the 2025 Annual report for the Hamilton Township Division of Recreation. The Hamilton Township Division of Recreation is dedicated to fulfilling the recreational needs of the Township's residents, of all ages. The Township's emphasis on recreation is prominent in the numerous municipal parks, leagues and activities sponsored and organized by the Division of Recreation. These activities continue to grow and expand to meet the ever changing needs and interests of our citizens. The Division's goal is to continue to expand our programs, both passive and active recreation, as to enable more and more citizens to participate and enjoy the same. Come join us!

This past year our outdoor parks, and Tennis Complex had a record number of visitors taking advantage of what Hamilton has to offer. The Hamilton Township Division of Recreation hosted multilabel Pickleball & Tennis Tournaments at our recently renovated courts drawing thousands of spectators and players from all over the states.

As we move into 2026, we look forward to continuing to expand our Parks and Recreation programs by providing the community with opportunities to help improve new quality of life, while making our Township a better place to live, visit and play!

Enjoy!
Hamilton Township Division of Recreation



MEET THE STAFF

KATHLEEN FITZGERALD

Director of Health, Recreation, Senior & Veterans' Services

NICOLE BARTLETT

Supervisor

SHANNON SCHAEFER

Program Coordinator

COLLETTE FRANKS

Recreation Leader



PART-TIME SUPERVISORS

<i>Program</i>	<i>Support Staff</i>
Adult Softball	1
Adult Volleyball	1

RECREATION FACILITIES – PART TIME EMPLOYEES

Tennis Staff	8
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2025

**HAMILTON TOWNSHIP
DIVISION OF RECREATION**

2388 Kuser Road, Hamilton NJ 08690

Phone (609) 890-4028

OUR MISSION

The Hamilton Township Division of Recreation has long demonstrated a major commitment towards fulfilling the recreation needs of its residents. This is evident in the numerous existing municipal parks and extensive recreational programs sponsored by the Township.

Hamilton Recreation's goal is to expand programs to meet the ever changing needs of today's community. Whether it's passive or active recreation, or simply enjoying a special event, there is something for everyone.

Hamilton Township Division of Recreation offers:

- Special Events
- Co-Sponsored Youth Programs
- Adult Programs
- Recreational Facility Usages

We strive to offer programs that allow for leadership, mentoring, teamwork, and relief from the stresses of everyday life.



YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Hamilton Township Ordinance Section 2-281, requires that all individuals affiliated with Hamilton Township co-sponsored youth programs undergo background checks. This ordinance is in place to help protect our children, youth leagues, and the Township of Hamilton.

Effective March 10, 2008, ALL non-criminal fingerprinting was taken away from local Police Departments and now must be done electronically through Sagem Morpho, Inc.

The **Division of Recreation** is responsible for maintaining its volunteer coach database and all affiliated records. Presidents of all youth sports leagues are updated monthly on the eligibility of their volunteer coaches.

This database currently consists of
773 individuals during 2025.



New Jersey Universal Fingerprint Form

www.bioapplicant.com/nj

(1) Originating Agency Number (JSP #) NJ9901002		(2) Category EDK	(3) Mobile Number 18A-5-4-14	
(4) Reason for Fingerprinting Non Public School Employment			(5) Document Type RD1	(6) Payment Information 996.50
(7) Contributor's Case # (Unique Identifier)			(8) Miscellaneous	
(9) First Name	(10) MI	(11) Last Name		
(12) Daytime Phone Number () - () - ()	(13) Social Security Number (Optional)	(14) Date of Birth	(15) Height	(16) Weight
(17) Reason or Alias Last Name	(18) Place of Birth (U.S. State if US Citizen; Country for all others)		(19) County of Citizenship	
(20) Home Address				
Address		City	State	Zip
(21) Gender (Select one) <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Both	(22) Hair Color	(23) Eye Color	(24) Race (Select One) (A) Asian Pacific Islander (Includes Hawaiian, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, Laotian, and Samoan) (B) Black (C) American Indian / Alaska Native (D) White (Includes Hispanic / Latino Origin) (E) Unknown	
(25) Occupation / Position (with respect to Requirement)	(26) Employer / Organization Name (with respect to Requirement)			
Employer Address		City	State	Zip

Identification (Required): Identification must be presented at the time of fingerprinting. Identification presented MUST be on a (1) document that is current (not expired), (2) combination of documents will not be accepted. No single document from outside the listing (driver's license, photo, name, address, promissory note, or birth cert) is issued by a Federal, State, County or Municipal entity for identification purposes. Examples of acceptable IDs are: (1) valid U.S. State Photo Drivers License from Other States, (2) U.S. Passport, (3) UNCS/Permanent Resident Card (issued after 8/1/2008), and (4) JSPCB Employment Authorization Card (issued after 10/1/2008).

Payment (MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE):
and follow all of the instructions provided by your agency employee to complete the fingerprint process. You must have this form (Blocks 7 through 26) completed prior to scheduling your fingerprint appointment via the website or call center. **PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.** It is **mandatory** you **attach** this completed Universal Fingerprint Form, IDG, NJAFP, 110113, at your scheduled appointment.

Appointment Scheduling:
Scheduling is available anytime at www.bioapplicant.com/nj. Appointments may also be scheduled through our Call Center. English and Spanish speaking agents are available at 1-877-560-5067, Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 5:00PM EST and Saturday, 8:30AM to 12 Noon EST.

Payment:
When an Applicant is responsible for payment, Payment is Required at the time of scheduling. The following forms of payment are accepted: Visa, MasterCard, or electronic debit (ACH) from a checking account; accounts will be debited immediately. Money Order is the only form of payment accepted at the scheduled session. **Payment Details:**
Appointments will be canceled or rescheduled via the website or the call center before the deadline of 5PM EST the business day prior to the scheduled appointment (Saturday Noon for Monday appointments). An appointment fee of \$15.00 will be incurred by applicants who do not cancel/reschedule their appointment prior to the deadline. Morpho Trust will refund the remainder of the fee paid (date/fees/amount spent fees) to the original payment method.

Unable to be Fingerprinted:
An applicant is considered "Unable to be Fingerprinted" for any of the following reasons: Failure to appear for scheduled appointment; inability to present proper identification; inability to present this completed Universal Fingerprint Form (IDG, NJAFP, 110113); information on this form does not exactly match the information provided during the scheduling process; Applicants unable to be fingerprinted will incur a \$15.00 appointment fee. Morpho Trust will refund the remainder of the fee paid (date/fees/amount spent fees) to the original payment method.

PCN and Receipts:
Upon the completion of fingerprinting, you will be assigned a PCN number. The PCN will be recorded on this form and on your receipt. Morpho Trust will not provide duplicate receipts, PCN Members or any appointment/printing information after the time of printing.

Assigned ID Number	Payment Method	PCN
Scheduled Day & Date	Scheduled Time	Scheduled Site
Agency Information:		

You **MUST** retain a copy of this form and the receipt of printing for your personal records.
APPLICANTS MUST NOT ALTER, SHARE, OR REUSE THIS FORM (IDG, NJAFP, 110113)

YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAMS

Hamilton Recreation aims to provide the highest quality of life for our residents, especially our youth, by offering ample recreational programs and facilities. The Recreation Division coordinated the usage of field and space requirements, and also assisted with scheduling and various related administrative functions.

Youth Basketball 2025 Registrations



Hamilton Little Lads Basketball
(Boys)- **300 participants**

Youth Soccer 2025 Registrations



Hamilton Boys Recreation Soccer
1924 participants

Hamilton Girls Recreation Soccer
1079 participants

Youth Football 2025 Registrations

Pop Warner

78 participants

19 Cheer participants



Youth Baseball & Softball 2025 Registrations



Nottingham Little League
274 participants

PAL
790 participants

Sunnybrae Little League
260 participants

HTRBA
140 participants

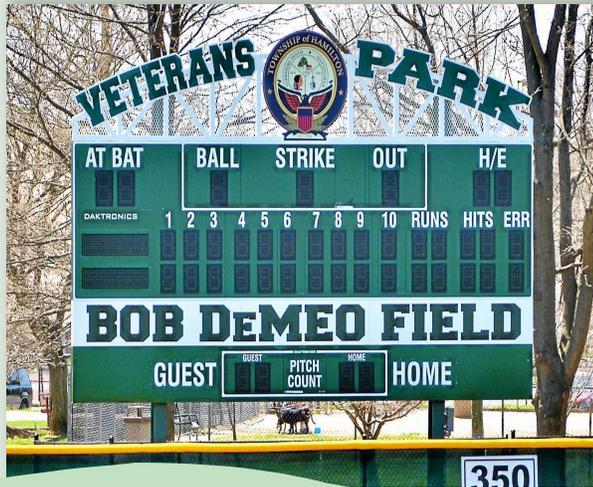
Nottingham Babe Ruth
78 participants

Hamilton Girls Softball
595 participants

Post 31
24 participants

Hamilton-Northern Burlington Babe
Ruth
43 participants

ATHLETIC EVENTS



Proudly held at
**2025 NJSIAA
BASEBALL TOURNAMENT
SEMI FINALS**

Veterans Park, Demeo Field
June 11th.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Throughout the year, the Division of Recreation directly organized, scheduled, supervised, and conducted recreational programs serving our adult population.

ADULT SOFTBALL

Over a two-month period May-August, approximately **220 adults** took part in four softball divisions, playing a total of **180 games**.

Sponsored Teams:

Bills Olde Tavern, Blend Bar, Caesars Bagels, Chiarello's Deli
Performance Sports Academy, Son's of Pitches, GGC, Killarney's, In It to Win It, Tindall Brewing Co, Blood & Guts, T & C Contractors, Cleats & Courage, First & Ten Sports Pub, Peroni Treasures, Team Toyota, X-Men, Rock Solid, ProAdjuster Chiropractic.



Men's—Bills Olde Tavern - 2025 Season & Playoff Champions
Woman's—In it to Win It - 2025 Season & Playoff Champions

ADULT SENIOR SOFTBALL 45+

Over a six week trial period September & October, **6 Teams 120 adults**, took part in senior ball softball, playing double header games for a total of **20 games**.



Men's Senior Softball— First & Ten Sports Pub 2025 Season & Playoff Champions

ADULT VOLLEYBALL

Winter Volleyball took place at Reynolds Middle School on Monday nights (woman's) and Tuesday nights (Co-Ed).

14 teams participated for Monday nights, 6 teams for Tuesdays.

Summer Volleyball took place at Veterans Park on Tuesday nights. 8 Co-Ed teams participated in 2025.



ADULT STREET HOCKEY

The Hamilton Men's Street Hockey League played Sundays at Veterans Park complex on the newly renovated hockey rink, from September- February. A total of **16 teams** involving **290 individuals** and played a total of **200 games**.



HAMILTON TOWNSHIP TENNIS PICKLEBALL COMPLEX

After the completion of another resurface of 6 pickleball courts in 2025 totaling 18, Hamilton Township's Tennis Pickleball Complex at Veterans Park hosted additional 3 Pickleball tournaments.

The tournament drew players, from far and wide across the United States, and included both professional and amateur level competition. The tournament was a success for pickleball enthusiasts and the local Hamilton community.



All photos courtesy of Recreation Staff

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP TENNIS PICKLEBALL COMPLEX

PICKLEBALL & TENNIS HAPPENINGS in 2025

150
Tennis
Memberships
were issued
in 2025.

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TENNIS LESSONS & SUMMER CAMP

PTP offered weekly
Tennis Lessons,
along with a 10-week
Youth Tennis
Summer Camp at
Veterans Park.



PICKLEBALL LESSONS

Started June 3, 2025

Pickleball Kingdom provided a pickleball lessons for those interested in learning more about the sport. Beginner and advance lessons were offered on Tuesdays/Thursdays through September.

Hamilton Township Tennis Center

Continues to serve as the home court for our local high school tennis teams and a tournament sight for several local and national tennis organizations.

- ◇ Princeton Tennis Program (PTP)
- ◇ Burlington County Scholastic League (BCSL)
- ◇ United States Tennis Association (USTA)
- ◇ NJ Interstate Scholastic Athletic Association (NISIAA)
- ◇ Frank Ciule Summer Classic
- ◇ Burlington County Open



PICKLEBALL MEMBERSHIPS

832 issued in 2025

2025

MEMBERSHIP RATES

(Seasonal: April 1st-October 31st)

\$25 RESIDENT

\$50 NON RESIDENT

\$10 GUEST PASS

YTD Revenue: \$75,235.00

PARK PICNIC PERMITS

Hamilton Township has one of the most extensive park systems and recreational facilities within Mercer County. With a total of **21 Township owned parks**, few *municipalities* match our parks, which include

active parks and passive gardens. The park system has become a popular spot for family picnics and outings. The Recreation Division issues permits to residents and local groups for usage of these sites.

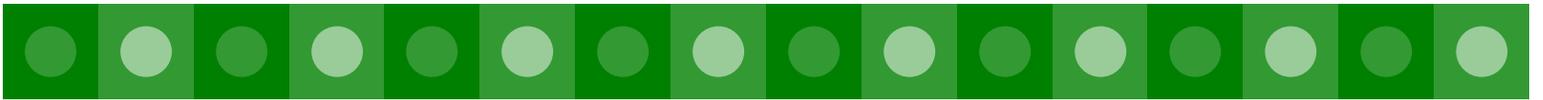
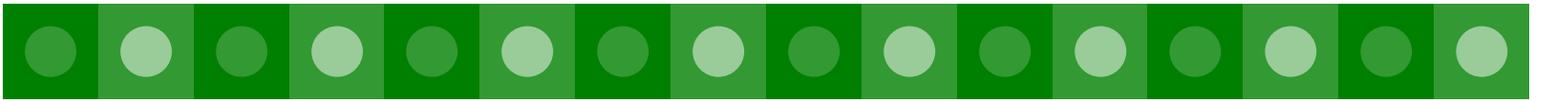


In **2025**, the following permits were issued for Veterans and Kuser Parks:

- **Kuser Park** **55 permits issued**
- **Veterans Park** **101 permits issued**

Total Revenue Collected - \$26,100.00





SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community events are a major part of the Recreation Division's efforts. Residents have become accustomed to traditional events, such as the Independence Day Celebration, and Winter Wonderland.

In 2025, Hamilton Township hosted the *Azalea Festival, July Concert & Fireworks, Oktoberfest, and Winter Wonderland.*

Photo from this years Azalea Fest- 2025



2025 July 4th Concert & Fireworks- Veterans Park, July 1, 2025



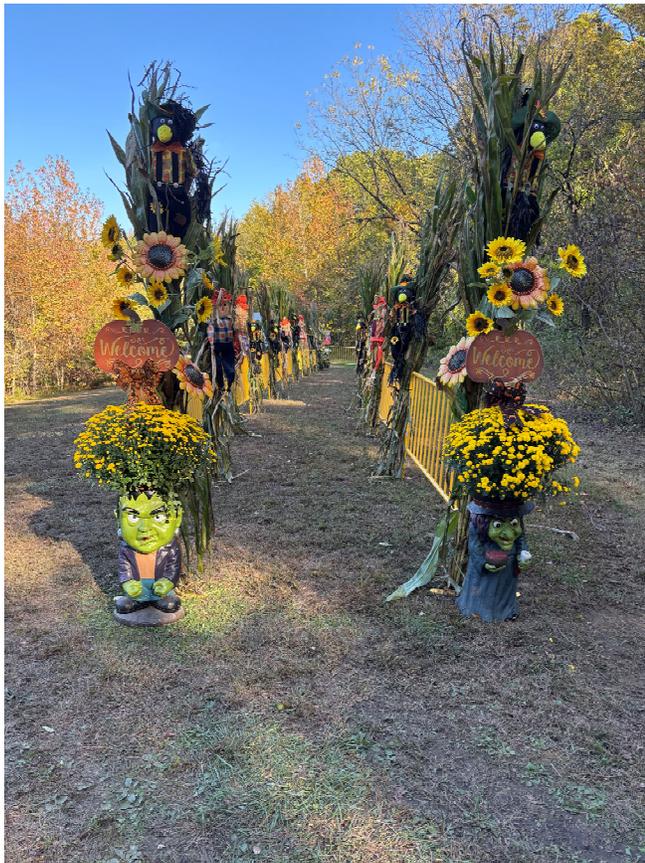
2025: Large crowd gathered on Cowell Soccer Field to listen to musical entertainment provided by the Heartbeats before the anticipated firework display.

SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

2025 Oktoberfest- Veterans Park, October, 19, 2025



Annual Oktoberfest returned to the South Side of Veterans Park on October 19, 2025. This year's event included third annual Beer Garden for patrons 21yrs of age and older. Spirits were provided from Blend Bar & Bistro and Killarney's Public House The event also included musical and theater entertainment, 30 food vendors, crafters, non-profit vendors, pumpkin patch, hay rides, corn maze, petting zoo and more.



SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

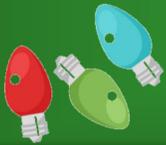
2025 WINTERWONDERLAND- KUSER PARK, 12/5 & 12/6

Visitors were again able to enjoy a walk-through event on December 5th & 6th from 4:30pm-7:30pm.

The annual Tree Lighting took place on December 5th at 6pm, with a special guest appearance from Santa, Kuser Mansion's annual tours took place inside the beautifully decorated mansion.

Other activities included, visit with Santa, Jersey Model Railroad, train ride through the decorated trials, a visit with the Grinch, Cindy Lou Who, Olaf & Elsa.

A vast array of food vendors, and festive holiday music all enjoyed by the warm firepits.



Division of Recreation

Goals and Objectives for 2026

Reevaluate donations given to co-sponsored programs, assessing participation amounts and league expenses.

Require annual reports from all leagues receiving donations. Reports should include total operating expenses, how donated monies were spent, and yearly participation.

Renovate the following:

Tennis Courts 3-4 & 7-8 at Veterans Park, they are in dire need for repair.

Re-surface courts 43-44

Explore options for upgrade lighting at Tennis Pickleball Complex

Explore options for “new” Recreational Programs

Board and Brush Craft Night

Floral Design Craft Night

Line/Ballroom Lessons

Indoor Craft Fair

Expanding Adult summer programs

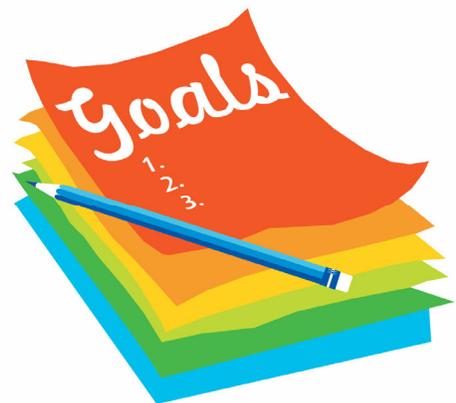
America’s 250th Anniversary

Special Events

New entertainment

Expanding variety of Food Vendors

Looking forward to expanding our programs and activities in 2026!





Hamilton Township

Office of Historic Homes

Annual Report

2025



SAYEN HOUSE & GARDENS



GRAFTON HOUSE



KUSER MANSION

.....

TOWNSHIP OF

OFFICE OF HISTORIC

155 HUGHES

HAMILTON, NJ

.....

HAMILTON ~ DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

HOMES

DRIVE (MAIN OFFICE)

08690

609.890.3588

Division of Recreation Office of Historic Homes

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Division of Recreation, Office of Historic Homes, is to promote greater appreciation and understanding of the history and significance of Hamilton Township to residents and the general public. The Historic Homes are focal points where many visitors can enjoy tours as well as gather for special events.

Future Goal: To raise awareness of these homes through published materials, media, tours, programming, social media and special events.



MEET THE STAFF

Kathleen Fitzgerald

Director of Health, Recreation, Senior & Veterans' Services

Nicole Bartlett

Supervisor

Lisa Konopka

Program Coordinator

Sayen House & Gardens, Grafton House & Kuser Mansion

Caroline DeLellis

Program Coordinator

Nottingham Ballroom



Tour Guides

Deborah Walker

Linnea Weber

Joan Roberts

Morgan Matthews

Sandra DiPerro

Colleen Foss

Betsy Snook

Kuser Farm Mansion



Since 1979, Hamilton Township opened the doors of this elegant Victorian home to the public for free tours by trained Tour Guides. Tours run from March through October. Admission is FREE!!! Besides guided tours, the mansion offers various programs and events throughout the year. Some include; Easter Bunny Photo's, Movie Night, Wedding Dresses from the Past, Ghost Investigation Night, and the very popular, Winter Wonderland and Christmas tours. Be sure to visit our special visitor from the North Pole in December!!

Kuser Gazebo Wedding Photos/Ceremonies:

The Gazebo today is a popular attraction for Brides and their families. To check on availability and for more information about the Kuser Mansion tours and programs, please visit our website at;

www.hamiltonnj.com/KuserMansion

Kuser Mansion Special Programs

The Kuser Mansion also offers special programs throughout the year including, 'What's It Worth', a Card Reader during Ghost Investigation, along with tours of the Jersey Valley Model Railroad display, located in the basement of the mansion. This year, Kuser Mansion received 6,479 visitors and \$2,391.00 in donations. Please be sure to visit us in 2025 with some additional new programs planned! Some of the 2025 programs include:

Easter Bunny



Wedding & Victorian Dresses for the Past



Ghost Investigation Night



Christmas Tours



Sayen House & Gardens



The Sayen House and Gardens is home to more than 1,000 azaleas and nearly 500 rhododendrons became the property of Hamilton Township in 1988. Today, it is know as the **“Sayen House & Gardens”**. It is an extremely popular venue for special event, especially weddings!

Our Township website, as well as Social Media accounts continues to be a popular source for clients planning their special event. You can find us on the following sites:



- ⇒ @SayenHouseandGardens
- ⇒ Historicalhomesofhamilton
 - ⇒ NJWeddings.com
 - ⇒ Wedding Spot
- ⇒ Here Comes the Guide
 - ⇒ The Knot



NJWedding.com



the knot

Sayen House & Gardens

Event Photos



Bridge over Pond



Fountain at Night



Brown Gazebo



Temple Gardens



Wedding Shower



Sayen House & Gardens

Statistics

The following are statistics from Sayen House & Gardens for House Rentals, Wedding Ceremonies, Wedding Photos and Catering fees from January—December 2025:

MONTH	TOTAL
January	\$10,180.10
February	\$10,019.10
March	\$8,976.23
April	\$9,612.98
May	\$8,891.48
June	\$14,157.16
July	\$12,752.61
August	\$5,794.35
September	\$11,519.00
October	\$13,247.00
November	\$7,189.75
December	\$2,580.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$115,369.76

Grafton House



The Grafton House was once the home to the first Sheriff of Mercer County, NJ. The Grafton House can accommodate a variety of functions and special gatherings. This historic jewel quietly sits behind the Hamilton Marketplace in south-east Hamilton, NJ.

The Grafton House has grown in popularity over the years, especially for birthday parties, baby and bridal showers. The potential clients have the option of choosing from three caterers, who provide quality service to our clients.

This majestic piece of our history celebrates Hamilton's past, while providing countless opportunities today and into the future. This beautiful home will make the perfect location for any special event!!

GRAFTON HOUSE

EVENTS

Wedding



Baby Showers



Birthday Parties



Grafton House Statistics

The following are statistics for the Grafton House Rentals fees and Catering fees from January—December 2025:

MONTH	TOTAL
January	\$1,559.60
February	\$1,620.00
March	\$2,497.40
April	\$2,084.60
May	\$1,268.75
June	\$237.50
July	\$1,972.00
August	\$2,610.00
September	\$1,337.75
October	\$486.00
November	\$681.25
December	\$1,416.00
<i>GRAND TOTAL</i>	\$17,770.85



Nottingham Ballroom

2025 Annual Report



Prepared by: Carrie DeLellis

*Hamilton Township, New Jersey
Department of Health, Recreation and Senior & Veteran Services*

200 Mercer Street, Hamilton NJ, 08690

Mission Statement



*At The Nottingham Ballroom,
We are dedicated to creating unforgettable moments in the heart of
Hamilton Township. As a premier event venue for weddings, banquets,
birthdays, and corporate celebrations, we take pride in delivering
exceptional service, exquisite catering, and a breathtaking setting
tailored to your special occasion. Our goal is to provide a seamless
and elegant experience, ensuring that every event is as unique and
memorable as the people we serve.*



2025 Statistics

Total Number of Events: 34

Township Events: 7

DMV Mobile Unit: 3

Flu Clinics: 4

Paid Events: 20



Nottingham Ballroom 2025 Deposits	
JANUARY	\$0.00
FEBRUARY	\$7,332.25
MARCH	\$4600.00
APRIL	\$360.00
MAY	\$2630.00
JUNE	\$3900.00
JULY	\$3566.00
AUGUST	\$1950.00
SEPTEMBER	\$1400.00
OCTOBER	\$856.00
NOVEMBER	\$4400.00
DECEMBER	\$3500.00



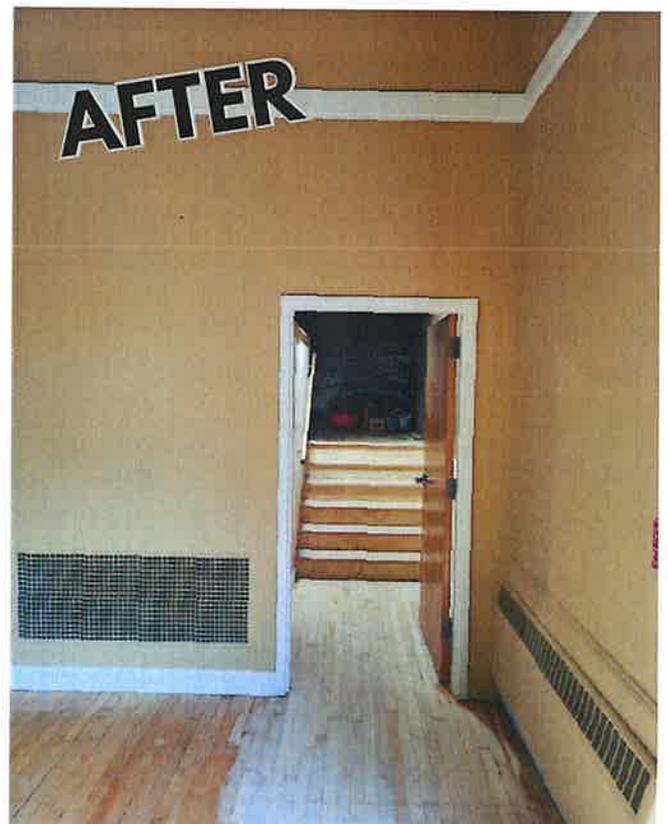
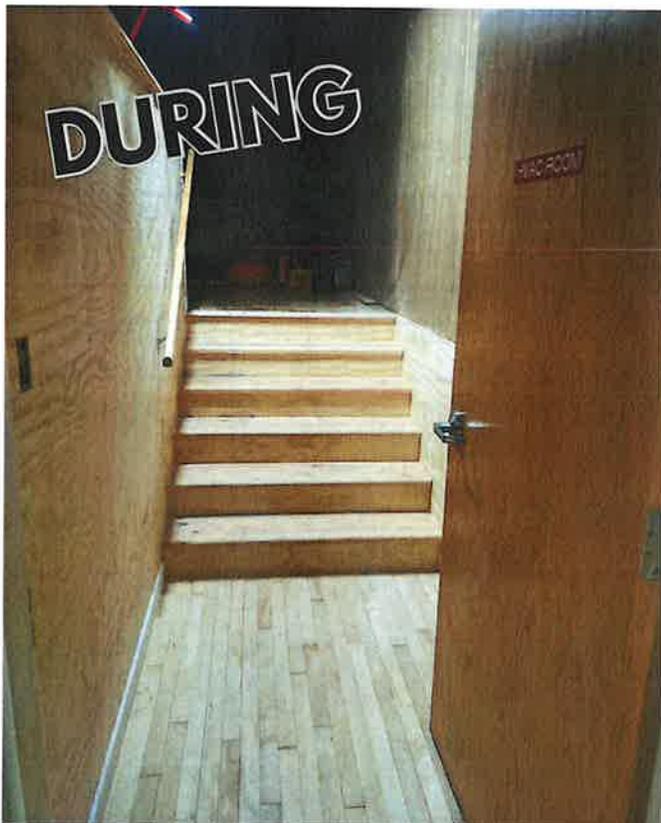
Accomplishments & Highlights of 2025

Projects:

- Renovation of Stage Doors
- Dropped door, built & installed code approved steps to stage
- Installation of 3 New Double Jammer doors
- Hired professional cleaner for after events alleviating DPW

Purchases:

- Bridal Suite Furniture
- Linens for Township Events
- Projector/Projector Cart
- Multi Color Uplighting
- Storage Cabinet for Township Property
- White Chivari Banquet Chairs
- Chivari Chair Carts
- New Ice Machine
- Lobby Furniture & Chairs



Goals and Objectives for 2026

- *Completion of Capital Flooring - Entry Way, Bathroom Hallway, Bar area & Emergency Exit Hallway*
- *Refinish Floor Stain around new stage steps*
- *Order new glassware dishwasher for behind bar*
- *Storage solution for 5 new caterers*
- *Addend Ordinance to Host Revenue Forwarding Township Sponsored Events such as comedy shows, vendor shows, bridal expos, etc.*
- *Quarterly Open Houses with newly awarded caterers*
- *Purchase plateware, glassware, utensils for catered events*
- *Exterior improvements to include a gazebo and landscape for wedding ceremonies, cocktail hour, etc. (mock-ups below)*





**TOWNSHIP OF
HAMILTON**

*Department of
Senior & Veteran
Services*

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by: Victoria Slaiciunas



Our Mission

The mission of the Hamilton Township Senior Center is to promote the most enriching quality of life for our Seniors. The Senior Center is a community focal point where older persons can gather for activities and services, which enhance their dignity, support their independence and encourages involvement in and with the community. We will continue to develop and implement programs and activities in the areas of health and fitness, education, recreation, socialization and volunteerism.

Our vision is for our Senior Center to be recognized as a center of excellence in providing innovative programs and services for our Seniors and the community. We will serve as a catalyst to partner with our community to strive for continuous growth in serving our diverse and changing community into the future.

We strive to increase the public's awareness of the Senior Center and promote active participation of our senior population. We promise to listen with respect, to serve with compassion and commitment, and to respond in a timely and professional manner to the current and future needs of the community.

The Hamilton Senior Center is very proud of its unique standing as a Nationally Accredited Center in the State of New Jersey and in the United States by having satisfied and passed the highest of requirements for national certification.

The Hamilton Township Senior Center

409 Cypress Lane, Hamilton NJ, 08619

Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday 8:30am - 4:00pm, Thursdays 8:30am - 7:00pm

Closed on all Weekends and Federal Holidays

Telephone: 609-890-3686

Website: www.HamiltonNJ.com/Seniors

Meet the Staff

Kathleen Fitzgerald
Director

Health, Recreation, Senior & Veteran Services



Olivia Catalfomo
Program Coordinator

Carrie DeLellis
Transportation Coordinator

Victoria Slaiciunas
Program Coordinator



John Goff
Facility Services

Jeovani Estrada
Facility Custodian

Part-Time Support Staff

Trudi Derrico
Toni Farrell
Diana Ross



Part-Time Drivers

Dan Knox
George Kolesar
Dennis Myers
Randy Palme
Marie Riccitelli
Robert Valentino

Looking back at 2025...

Throughout 2025, the Senior Center had an abundance of informational programs presented to our Seniors by our wonderful Community Partners. Some of those programs were: AIC Screenings, AARP Driver Safety Course, AARP Tax Assistance, Acupressure Yoga and Pelvic Health, Aging Now, Avoiding Environmental Toxins, Balance and Fall Prevention, Building a Better Back, Bullying in Older Adults, Coloring for Relaxation, Diamond Art, Eating Healthy and Diabetes Program, Flower Arranging, Focus on Your Feet, Hearing Screenings, Holiday Craft, Jeopardy, Left Right Center, Medicare 101 and Medicare Changes, Mother's Day Event, Panel with A Purpose, Plant Workshop, Samba Fitness, Skin Care Basics, Technology Assistance w/ Benny, and much more!

Along with our Community Partner programs, we offered our weekly and daily activities here at the Center. Some of those activities included: Ballroom Dancing, Billiards, Bocce, Chair Exercise, Chess Club, Choral Group, Crochet Group, Swimming, Tai Chi and much more! We value our volunteers and know that we wouldn't be able to provide as many programs as we do without them! Our volunteers graciously lend their time to lead Bingo, Book Club, Chair Yoga, Line Dancing, Knitting Group, and Splash Fitness classes. We also have volunteers that help sort and hand out the Panera donations in our Main Dining Room.

The Senior Center hosted several intergenerational programs this year: Langtree Elementary School visited the Center to do Valentine's Craft with our Seniors, Nottingham High School Students came multiple times throughout the year to assist Seniors with their smart devices and technology questions, and we finished out the year with a Winter Craft with Girl Scout Troop #70943.

We understand that making friends when you are older is sometimes difficult, our Community Partners: Brookdale of Hamilton and VanDyck Law Group host a monthly gathering "Golden Connection" for the seniors to chat about shared interest, meet new people and learn about what is happening in the Township. VanDyck Law Group also facilitates our grief group "Circle of Friends" allowing our Seniors a safe space to grieve a lost loved one or someone living who has long-term health conditions.

Throughout the year the Trip Chaperone, Toni along with her assistant Trip Chaperone Marie, planned monthly casino trips to Atlantic City Resorts Casino and Wind Creek Casino in Bethlehem PA. In April they went to the Shore Club in Spring Lake where they enjoyed a lovely luncheon and show. To end the year, in December the bus trip was to see a show and enjoy lunch at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in Hampton NJ, when Seniors arrived back, they raved and said it was the best show they have seen in years!

It would not be a successful year without the special events that we host! We held our Spring Dinner Dance with catering provided by Louie's by Chef Jason accompanied by the fan favorite musical trio Dennis, Rick and Kenny. In September we held our Annual picnic, the raindate had to be used but the weather that day ended up being perfect! Catering by NJ Wedding and Events provided hamburgers, Italian sausage or Porkroll with potato salad, vegetarian pasta salad and baked beans as the sides while our community partners provided a sweet dessert. In November we hosted our Fall Dinner Dance where the favorites were brought back again to get the Seniors dancing, NJ Wedding and Events was the caterer and brought a new meal option of turkey to the menu. In between our larger events, we hosted multiple Just Dances with fun themes, such as: Winter Jam, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, April Showers Bring May Flowers, Luau, Celebrating the USA, Ghostly Gala, and a Holiday Social with a surprise visit from Mrs. Clause and the Grinch.



Membership in 2025

43,552 Members checked in
321 New Members joined

Transportation

2,038 Doctors runs
 1,388 Food Shopping runs
 Total Miles: 24,161 for 2025
 40 new participants registered in 2025

Senior Volunteers

26 Volunteers: 2,432.56 hours

Mercer County Nutrition Program

30,534 meals were distributed in 2025

Health Screenings

Evans Hearing - 27 Participants
 Flu Shots - 16 Participants
 NEC - 70 Participants
 RWJ Screenings - 13 Participants

Community Partner Programs

AARP Driving Course - 15 Participants
 AARP Income Tax Help - 100 Participants
 Accela - 44 Participants
 All Cure - 10 Participants
 Avalon - 63 Participants
 Braven Health - 27 Participants
 Brookdale of Hamilton - 20 Participants
 Capital Health - 55 Participants
 Choice Care Senior Benefits - 65 Participants
 Circle of Friends - 15 Participants
 Coloring for Relaxation - 18 Participants
 Diamond Art with Stephanie - 15 Participants
 Gentiva - 13 Participants
 Girl Scouts - 13 Participants
 Golden Connections - 45 Participants
 Hamilton Physical Therapy - 12 Participants
 LOES - 13 Participants
 Platinum Home Care - 73 Participants
 RWJ of Hamilton - 20 Participants
 Strive PT - 10 Participants
 Synergy Home Care - 15 Participants
 Tech Help w/ Benny - 35 Participants
 Tech Help w/ Students - 35 Participants
 The Meadows at Lawrence - 10 Participants
 Town Square - 16 Participants
 Trinity Rehab - 9 Participants
 VanDyck Law - 20 Participants

Social Events

Annual Picnic - 400 Participants
 Fall Dinner Dance - 183 Participants
 Holiday Sing A Long - 200 Participants
 Just Dances - 752 Participants
 Lawrence Community Band - 25 Participants
 Mother's Day Event - 83 Participants
 Spring Dinner Dance - 200 Participants
 St. Patrick's Day Party - 154 Participants
 Intergenerational Valentines Day - 22 Participants
 Welcome Fall Event - 29 Participants

Ethnicity Percentage for the 2025 Year

African American	Asian American	Caucasian	From India	Hispanic	Native American	N/A
6.7%	2%	83.5%	1.9%	1.7%	0.1%	4.1%

Daily Activities

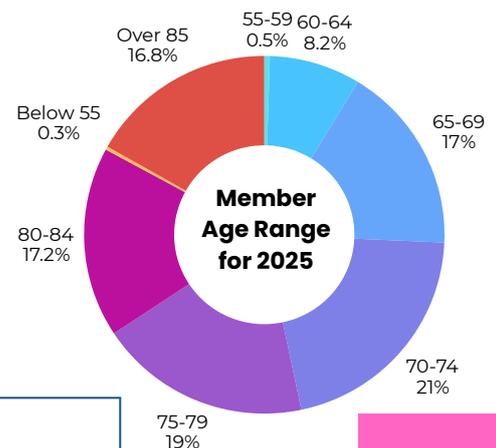
Backgammon - 116 Participants
 Billiards - 4,406 Participants
 Billiards PM - 235 Participants
 Bingo AM - 1,009 Participants
 Bingo PM - 246 Participants
 Bocce - 3,010 Participants
 Bocce PM - 252 Participants
 Book Club - 25 Participants
 Canasta - 617 Participants
 Chess Club - 243 Participants
 Choral Group - 295 Participants
 Computer Room - 1,763 Participants
 Crochet Group - 102 Participants
 Dominoes - 10 Participants
 Knitting Group - 218 Participants
 Ping Pong - 1,480 Participants
 Puzzles - 2,105 Participants
 Rummikub - 346 Participants
 Shuffleboard - 701 Participants
 Spiritual Wellness - 358 Participants
 TV Room - 2,374 Participants
 TV Room PM - 34 Participants

Daily Exercise

Ballroom Dancing - 154 Participants
 Bocce Exercise Bikes - 869 Participants
 Chair Exercise (DVD): 9am - 297 Participants
 10am - 518 Participants
 Chair Yoga w/ Stephanie - 581 Participants
 Chair Yoga (DVD) - 90 Participants
 Fitness Room: AM - 5,671 Participants
 PM - 267 Participants
 HIIT Workout (DVD) - 118 Participants
 Line Dancing - 1,223 Participants
 Late Line Dancing - 647 Participants
 Outside Equipment - 388 Participants
 Splash Fitness - 1,445 Participants
 Step it Up (DVD) - 845 Participants
 Swimming Pool - 590 Participants
 Tai Chi (DVD) - 15 Participants
 Walking Trail - 2,128 Participants

Day Bus Trips

Atlantic City - 311 Participants
 Hunterdon Hills - 48 Participants
 Shore Club - 53 Participants
 Wind Creek Casino - 95 Participants



32.6%
Male
Members

67.4%
Female
Members



Major Assets, Accomplishments and Highlights of 2025

Senior Center:

- The Township received three new vehicles this year
 - Two (2) grant funded vehicles through NJ Transit
 - Chrysler Voyager LX Mini Van
 - Ford Transit passenger van
 - One (1) vehicle from Mercer County
 - Jeep Grand Cherokee



Senior Center Staff:

- We welcomed a new part-time driver, Dennis Myers.
- Kathleen Fitzgerald was presented with the Lifesaver Award by The American Red Cross Association in June (*pictured on the right*) due to heroic actions back in 2024 when she provided life-saving CPR to an individual that was choking in the Main Dining Room during the Mercer County Nutrition Program.
- Throughout the year, Staff attended important and critical meetings to better serve the community and be prepared for unexpected challenges that may arise. Olivia, Carrie and Victoria attended an Edmunds meeting to better understand the purchasing department and the way the system worked. Kathy, John and Victoria attended a Shelter training to be better prepared if in the event the Senior Center needs to be used as an Emergency Shelter.



Some building and ground improvements that have been made in 2025:

- Up lighting was ordered and delivered for us to use at our dances and special events. It gives our dining room an elevated finished and fun look.
- New lockable cabinets were ordered, delivered, built and installed in the back room - creating a more organized and clean look.
- Four (4) Electric Vehicle chargers were installed in the main parking lot along the bocce court.
- Two (2) new weight racks and weights were delivered and placed in the All Purpose Room for seniors to use during their workouts.
- A new dumpster was delivered to replace the rusted old one located in the employee parking lot.
- The township installed new phones with a new phone system, Cisco.
- New artwork was purchased and hung throughout the building.
- The floors and carpets were professionally cleaned.
- 3 billiard tables were recovered
- A broken window in the main office was replaced.
- 2 new treadmills were delivered and installed in the fitness room.
- The tree stump that was located on the backgrounds was dug out and filled with dirt, along with other holes/tripping hazards.
- A new bin for recycling was ordered, delivered, built and installed.
- Construction on the deck began but then paused for the colder months and is estimated to be finished in 2026.

Coming Soon...

We are always looking to improve the Senior Center facility as well as offer new programs, activities and events to our members!

Our 2026 Goals:

- Complete the deck, located next to the swimming pool on our backgrounds.
- Refurbish the interior bocce court flooring.
- Repave the employee and main parking lots
 - We hope to connect the parking lots in the employee parking lot for easier access to all parking spaces and easier ingress and egress.
- Renew all CPR and First Aide Certifications for Staff Members.
- Finish construction on the generator located in the back of the building next to the employee parking lot/entrance.
- Continue outreach and increase membership at the Senior Center.
- Continue to improve the wellness of Seniors by offering more programs and information provided by our new and existing Community Partners.

