The State Board of Health was established in 1889 to create a central organization to control disease and pollution and channel funds from the federal government to local health department. Taylor County was the first to organize a county health unit in 1930, followed by Leon in 1931, and Escambia County in 1932. Since inception, both Leon and Escambia have continued providing services without interruption. Taylor County did not provide services from 1933 to 1935.

Prior to the State Board of Health, each county had Boards of Health created out of fear of communicable diseases. However, these boards were run by people with little medical knowledge, usually lay people. The first form of public health activity began in Leon County as early as 1889 when they began working with quarantine agents in the control of yellow fever.

The Florida Department of Health in Leon County (DOH– Leon) opened in January 1931, housed in three rooms over a shoe store at Monroe and Jefferson streets, with six employees. Dr. L.J. Graves served as the first health officer, and the first DOH-Leon staff consisted of two nurses and three sanitarians. They occupied at least two other locations downtown near the courthouse and Capitol until moving to the corner of Gadsden and Gaines streets in July 1940.

The DOH-Leon’s emphasis during those early years was “prevention of disease and the prolongation of physical and mental efficiency through organized community effort.” The department functioned with three divisions: Clinics and Nursing, Sanitation, and Mental Health.

Today, as we continue our mission to “promote health, prevent disease,” four satellite units (Roberts and Stevens, Richardson-Lewis also known as “Southside”, Environmental Health, and Molar Express (Dental)) make up the full complement of the DOH-Leon. DOH-Leon has an administrator and 172 staff. The department is divided into 11 divisions: Administration, Business, Public Health Preparedness, Health Education, and School Health. DOH-Leon provides services without interruption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOH-Leon Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roberts and Stevens Clinic: 872 West Orange Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richardson-Lewis Clinic: 1515 Old Bainbridge Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32303</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mission**
To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.

**Vision**
To be the Healthiest State in the Nation.

**References**

**Frequently Used Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth and Death Certificates</td>
<td>606 - 8100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease Reporting</td>
<td>606 - 8125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing, Immunizations, STD/HIV</td>
<td>606 - 8010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molar Express (Dental) Clinic Hours</td>
<td>606 - 8400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Services</td>
<td>606 - 8400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>606 - 8350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septic Tanks, General Information</td>
<td>606 - 8125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIC Line</td>
<td>606 - 8300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molar Express (Dental)</td>
<td>606 - 8400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women, Infants and Children (WIC)</td>
<td>606 - 8100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Regular Clinic Hours:**
- Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
- Clinic Appointments Line: 606 - 8000
- Dental Appointments Line: 606 - 8010
- WIC Line: 606 - 8300
- Vital Statistics Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
### Clinic Services
- Child and Adult Immunizations
- Family Planning (Birth Control Methods)
- Pregnancy Tests
- STD Testing and Treatment
- Tuberculosis (TB) Skin Tests
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening

### School Health
- Case Management for Chronic Conditions
- Health Education and Trainings
- Medication Monitoring in Schools
- Immunization Compliance
- Health Screenings, Referral and Follow up
- Advocate for Resources for Identified Needs

### STD/HIV/AIDS
**Sexually Transmitted Diseases:**
- Testing
- Prevention
- Diagnosis
- Treatment and Follow-up
- Community Outreach
- Awareness Education

### Environmental Health
**Inspections:**
- Sanitary Nuisance Investigations
- Public Swimming Pools and Bathing Places
- Mobile Homes
- Onsite Sewage (Septic tanks)
- Tanning Facilities
- Biohazardous Waste
- Water Testing
- Environmental Lead Monitoring
- Food Hygiene Inspections
- Group Care Facilities

**Communicable Disease Control:**
- Communicable Disease Education and Consultation
- Epidemiology Education, Investigation and follow-up
- Tuberculosis Detection, Education, treatment, Case Management, and Follow-up
- Rabies

### Nutrition Services
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- Breast-feeding Support
- Nutritional Education and Counseling

### Social Services
**Healthy Start:**
- Care Coordination
- Home Visiting
- Parent Education
- Prenatal Education
- Baby Basics Classes
- Childbirth Education Classes
- Medicaid Eligibility for Pregnant Women
- Family Planning Waiver Program

### Environmental Health

**Inspections:**
- Sanitary Nuisance Investigations
- Public Swimming Pools and Bathing Places
- Mobile Homes
- Onsite Sewage (Septic tanks)
- Tanning Facilities
- Biohazardous Waste
- Water Testing
- Environmental Lead Monitoring
- Food Hygiene Inspections
- Group Care Facilities

**Communicable Disease Control:**
- Communicable Disease Education and Consultation
- Epidemiology Education, Investigation and follow-up
- Tuberculosis Detection, Education, treatment, Case Management, and Follow-up
- Rabies

### Public Health Preparedness
- DOH-Leon Planning, Training and Exercising
- Coordinating equipment purchases, contracts, planning and training for hospital and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) preparedness
- Coordinating Strike Teams:
  - Epidemiology
  - Environmental Health
  - Special Needs Shelter
- Regional Training Exercises— health exercises include:
  - Caduceus Shield
  - Beleaguered Bus
  - Pandemic Pandemonium

### Molar Express
- Dental Treatment and Hygiene Education (ages 5-20 years only)

### Health Promotion
**Policy and Environmental Change:**
- Community Health Promotion
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Tobacco Prevention Program
- Tobacco Free Leon Partnership
- Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT)

### Vital Statistics
- Birth and Death Certificates