



Delaware General Health District **NEWS RELEASE**

P.O. Box 570 • 1-3 W. Winter St.
Delaware, OH 43015 • 740-368-1700
www.delawarehealth.org



For Immediate Release
March 21, 2014

For more information contact:
Traci Whittaker, Public Information Officer
(740) 203-2085

DGHD RECOGNIZED BY CONGRESSMAN TIBERI FOR BEING ONE OF FIRST IN NATION TO RECEIVE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

DELAWARE, Oh. – The Delaware General Health District received praise and recognition today from Representative Pat Tiberi and other local officials after the agency this week achieved national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). The Health District is one of 31 health departments nationwide and one of four in the state that have been accredited by PHAB.

“It is my pleasure to honor the Delaware General Health District as one of the first health departments in Ohio to achieve the national standards set forth to foster effectiveness and promote continuous quality improvement,” Representative Tiberi said. “This accreditation not only speaks volumes about the quality of the department’s staff, but informs the public about the level of service they can expect.”

The national accreditation program, jointly supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, sets standards against which the nation’s more than 3,000 governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance. To receive accreditation, a health department must undergo a rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets or exceeds a set of quality standards and measures.

“Whenever you see our seal of accreditation, you will know that the Health District has been rigorously examined and meets or exceeds national standards that promote continuous quality improvement for public health,” Health Commissioner Shelia Hiddleson said. “With accreditation, the Health District is demonstrating increased accountability and credibility to the public, funders, elected officials and partner organizations.”

The national accreditation program was created collaboratively over a 10-year period by hundreds of public health practitioners working at the national, Tribal, state and local levels. Since the program’s launch in September 2011, nearly 130 health departments have applied to PHAB for accreditation, and hundreds of public health practitioners from across the nation have been trained to serve as volunteer peer site visitors for the program.



Representative Tiberi presents a proclamation of recognition on behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District to Health Commissioner Shelia Hiddleson (center) and some members of the Delaware General Health District staff.