



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Erie County Health Department Achieves 100% Pass Rate in ServSafe Certification Course

Sandusky, Ohio — [May 6, 2026] — The Erie County Health Department (ECHD) is proud to announce a 100% pass rate for participants in its most recent ServSafe Certification Course, held April 23 and April 30.

A total of 20 local food service businesses were represented in the training, which equips restaurant managers and food service professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely handle food and prevent foodborne illness.

ServSafe certification is a nationally recognized standard in food safety and is essential for ensuring that those responsible for food preparation understand proper sanitation, temperature control, cross-contamination prevention, and safe food handling practices.

“Food safety starts with education,” said Heather Hayes, REHS, RS, Environmental Health Specialist with ECHD. “By providing ServSafe training locally, we’re helping ensure that food service workers have the tools and knowledge they need to protect the public. A 100% pass rate reflects the commitment of our local businesses to maintaining high standards and prioritizing the health of their customers.”

Foodborne illness remains a significant public health concern, and properly trained food service staff play a critical role in prevention. Programs like ServSafe help reduce risk, strengthen compliance with health regulations, and build consumer confidence in local establishments.

“This achievement highlights the strong partnership between our Environmental Health team and the local business community,” said Peter T. Schade, REHS, MPH, Erie County Health Commissioner. “When food service professionals are well-trained, it directly impacts the safety and well-being of our entire community. We are proud to support these efforts and to see such outstanding results.”

The Erie County Health Department offers ServSafe certification courses twice annually to support local businesses and promote food safety across the region.

The next ServSafe course will be held in September 2026. Businesses interested in registering are encouraged to contact Heather Hayes at the Erie County Health Department for more information and to secure a spot.

For additional details about environmental health services or upcoming trainings, please visit ErieCoHealthOhio.com or call 419-626-5623, Ext. 5104.

About Erie County Health Department:

The Erie County Health Department remains dedicated to improving the health and wellness of all residents through accessible, compassionate, and comprehensive healthcare services. ECHD operates the Erie County Community Health Center, the Erie County Detox, Kaptur Rogowski House, and Compass Point, providing adult day services for Alzheimer’s and Dementia patients.

For more information about Health Department or Health Center services, visit www.ErieCoHealthOhio.com.