

# Success Story

Erie County



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## STD Clinic Visits Increase

The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinic saw 492 clients during the month of June 2009. There have only been three months higher, two in 2004 and one in early 2005. In addition, the number of clients in the first half of 2009 equaled 2,547 compared to 1,915 clients for the same time period in 2008. This represents a 33% increase in clients seen with no additional staff added.

These successes can be attributed to the dedicated staff in the clinic and to several changes which have been implemented to improve clinic flow and efficiency. Some of these changes include offering rapid HIV testing, the appointment of a new head nurse, the addition of two disease intervention specialists (funded by NYSDOH) and an increase in outreach activities.

Increasing visits to the STD clinic allows for testing and treatment of more individuals infected with an STD(s) thereby decreasing the spread of infections in the community.

The increase in client visits may have contributed to the significant decrease in the number of cases of gonorrhea in Erie County between 2007 and 2008.

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