

1854 Construction of the Medina County Infirmary began and was completed in January 1855 at a cost of \$2200. It was 59ft x 29ft with nine rooms on 1<sup>st</sup> floor and ten on the second with stoves in a few of the rooms. Four cells with iron doors were also on the first floor. It was located on a 420 acre portion of the Garrett Spitzer Farm in Lafayette Township.

1857 The infirmary farm begins operations to become self-sufficient. They raised cattle, sheep, hogs, chickens, and very large gardens.

1863 On 4 August, the County Infirmary building built in 1854 was completely destroyed by fire.

1865 County Infirmary rebuilt to replace the 1854 building that was destroyed by fire.

1893 Despite being condemned by State as unfit for human habitation, a bond issue to build a new main building at the Medina County Infirmary (County Home) was defeated by 52% the voters. Going into debt in the middle of very poor economic times encouraged many to prefer a plan to repair the existing structures. Townships were split about saving the old structure or building a new one.

1894 County Commissioners Leach, Yoder and Evans returned the County Infirmary issue back to voters while inviting civic groups, elected officials and business committees to tour the deteriorated buildings. Many did and most wrote accounts in the local newspaper urging the public to support the new bond issue. This time, 64% of the voters approved the issuing of bonds to build the main structure of the County Home.

Construction costs came to \$25,840.84 a lot of money in 1894. Specifications included a dining room in the basement for the inmates with strong plaster and lath ceilings to prevent food and cooking odors from breeding disease.

1970 Farming was discontinued at the County Home. The land was leased to local farmers.

Approximate acreage distribution:

10 acres maintained by the County Home

23 acres for Farm Lease

50 acres gifted for the MC Highway Garage/Agricultural Service Center

50 acres gifted to University of Akron for Tech Center

100 acres gifted to the MC Park District

1981 Restoration began to update the structure to meet the safety code and continue care to serve our residents.

Upgrades included electric, joining the two buildings together, adding an elevator, beauty shop, bedroom, and lounge area. Refurbish 9 bedrooms, shower room, restroom, and activity room.

This restoration was completed in 1983 at a cost of \$820,000 with a federal grant fund.

2006 Adult Day Care program started.

There are a total of 110 rooms along with 12 hallways, 14 exits, 4 tub & shower rooms, 11 restrooms, 8 lounge areas with DirecTV satellite, activity room, kitchen, dining room, dishwasher room, laundry room, donation storage room, administration office and nursing office.

The MCH is a valuable resource and offers an important service to the residents of MC. It provides quality care at a reasonable rate.

Board & Care rate for private pay - \$69/day, \$2,100/month or on a flexible rate according to income.

Adult Day Care: \$35/day

42 residents/2 adult day care/can house 50 residents and employees

2002- 1<sup>st</sup> levy passes 62%

2007- 1<sup>st</sup> replacement levy passes 60%

2011- Levy renewal passes 67%

2016- Levy renewal passes 65%

2021 On 27 July, the Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed to use \$742,584 of ARPA money to replace the Home's 1965 boiler and upgrade our HVAC system to include central air to all bedrooms.

November 8, 2021, voters are being asked to renew the 0.2 mill and an increase of 0.075 mill property levy to continue supporting the Medina County Home. This will cost at most **\$7.77** per year for the owner of a single family owner occupied home with an appraised value of \$100,000 starting in collection year 2022 which is only **\$2.63** more than a straight renewal.

Originally all 88 counties in Ohio had County Homes. As of January 2021, there are only 8 non-certified County Homes (MC is non-certified), 14 certified County Homes, and 2 managed County Homes.