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February 16, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Salmonellosis investigated locally

Bellefontaine, Ohio - The Logan County Health District has received reports of suspected Salmonellosis illness occurring locally in the last week possibly from eating certain brands of peanut butter. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta have been monitoring a low intensity outbreak of Salmonellosis since August, 2006. The occurrence of disease has recently been linked to peanut butter. The Logan County Health District is collecting samples, doing interviews with patients, and working with local grocers during this investigation.

Persons who think they may have become ill from eating peanut butter are advised to contact their health care provider and call their local health district. Persons who have become ill and have Peter Pan or Great Value peanut butter with product code beginning with "2111" should keep the jar at room temperature for possible collection by local health officials for further testing. Persons who have not become ill and have Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter with product code "2111" should discard it. Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter with product code beginning with "2111" has been sold in Logan County. These products were recalled by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on February 14, 2007.

Most persons infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after ingestion. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days, and most persons recover without treatment. However, in some persons the diarrhea may be so severe that the patient needs to be hospitalized. The elderly, infants, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness.

Logan County residents affected may contact the Logan County Health District, 310 South Main Street, Bellefontaine at (937) 592-9040. For general information about Salmonella go to www.cdc.gov.