

ANNUAL REPORT

2007-2008

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



MISSION: TO PROMOTE HEALTH, PREVENT DISEASE, AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY THROUGH LEADERSHIP, VISION, ADVOCACY, AND COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

WISEWOMAN

WiseWoman is a health program for 40 to 64 year-old women designed to lower the risk for health disease and to promote heart healthy choices. Women ages 40 to 64 who are enrolled in the N.C. Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) are eligible for *WiseWoman*. *WiseWoman* gives diet and physical activity tips to help women make healthy choices to lower their risk of disease. *WiseWoman* teaches women about ways to add heart-healthy foods to their meals, and encourages women to increase physical activity in their lives. *WiseWoman* services include blood pressure checks, cholesterol checks, education on ways to lower your risk of heart disease and stroke, referral to a clinic or doctor if needed and referral to community resources. Northampton County Health Department provided *WiseWoman* services to 66 women in 2007-2008.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

9495 NC 305 Hwy.
Post Office Box 635
Jackson, N.C. 27845

Phone: 252-534-5841
252-534-1291 (Home Health)

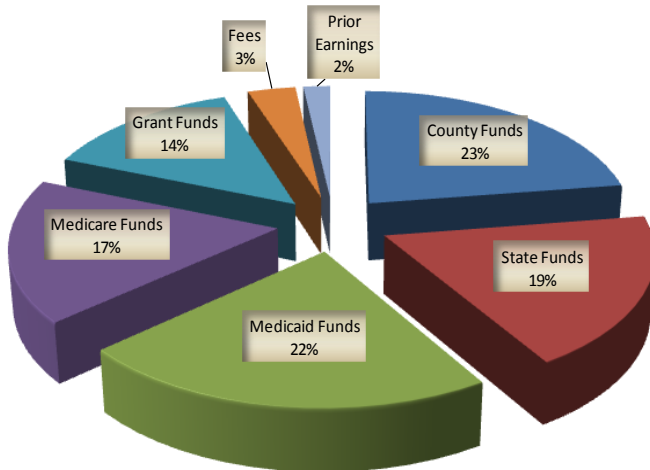


We're on the WEB!
www.northamptonhd.com

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BUDGET 2007-2008

Health Department Budget FY 07-08
\$4,285,461



FIT COMMUNITY

Northampton County Health Department, in partnership with the Cooperative Extension, Office on Aging and Recreation Department was awarded a "Fit Community" two year grant beginning July 1, 2007. The Fit Community initiative recognizes and rewards North Carolina municipality and county-led efforts to promote physical activity and healthy eating programs, policies, environments and lifestyles.

The grant had three components: physical changes, behavioral changes and policy changes. The grant provided financial resources to accomplish enhancements to the Northampton County Nature Trail which adjoins two large county government complexes and made it possible to purchase exercise equipment for the new Northampton County Cultural & Wellness Center. For the behavioral aspect of the plan, the group will provide peer support & recognize people for increasing physical activity and setting exercise goals. The 3rd component involves a policy change approved by the Northampton County Board of Commissioners which allows county government employees to attend a short, once a month education session about health & wellness.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Presenting the 2007-2008 Statistical Report is indeed a pleasure for Northampton County Health Department. I sincerely hope that you spend a few moments reading the information contained in this document and learning more about the varied public health services provided over the past year in our county. You are sure to learn that your local health department, Public Health, has had a positive impact on your life and the lives of those around you.



Please take the time to analyze all the services that are available from septic system permitting to childhood immunizations, to food establishments handling

food safely, to the provision of Home Health and preventive clinical services. Please be aware that your local public health department has a profound impact on your daily life and that Public Health is about Healthy People Living in Healthy Communities.

I want to also take the opportunity to thank the leadership of the Health Department that includes the Board of Health, County Commissioners, and County Manager for making the necessary provisions for us to provide services to the citizens of our county. I want to also recognize the local Public Health workforce for all they do to Assure, Assess, and Address, as it relates to a healthy and safe community. Recognition and gratitude are also extended to our community health partners, including local agencies, organizations, and volunteers, for helping develop and implement innovative strategies to overcome barriers to health outcomes to individuals and communities.

As you take the time to go through our 2007-2008 Statistical Report and observe the varied services we have provided over the past year, I hope that you will agree that Public Health is EveryWhere, EveryDay, for EveryBody!

Sue G. Gay
Health Director

Accomplishments 07-08

- Set up a contractual agreement for medical record storage
- Set up a negative pressure room with PH Preparedness funding
- New CPR instructors certified
- Capability for video conferencing per PHTIN
- Consolidated Health Dept. & Home Health server
- Purchased new Env. Health vehicle thru a Well Water grant.
- Established & filled a new Animal Shelter Attendant position
- Established an agency website
- Began circulation of a monthly newsletter to all county agencies
- Successful in receiving 6 grants & DHHS RFAs
- Notary Public certification added to existing position

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Control of communicable and infectious diseases is often hidden to the public it serves but that doesn't mean the public health workforce isn't busy protecting the community. Daily surveillance, reporting of cases, education and ongoing inspection and monitoring occur daily in the public health world. Outbreaks are prevented and many lives saved because of the ongoing effort of public health nurses, environmental health specialists, laboratory staff, health educators and other public health workers.

Northampton County is not immune to HIV/AIDS and recent data indicates an increase in the number of persons being tested and an increase in HIV/AIDS cases. AIDS is now the fourth leading cause of death worldwide and the No. 1 cause of death due to infectious disease. The statistics are alarming; however, remarkable progress has been made against a disease that suddenly emerged in 1981. Education about HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment is available for individuals and organizations by contacting the health department at 252-534-5841.

One mechanism used for education, prevention and screening utilized by the Northampton County Health Department is the Health in Motion mobile unit, which became available through an initiative of the North-eastern N.C. Partnership for Public Health. The mobile unit is available to NENCPPH partners for education and screenings at health fairs, etc. The mobile unit is staffed by the Brody School of Medicine in Pitt County and is based in Hertford County. Funding for the van was provided by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and the AIDS Care Branch.



Health in Motion van



HOME HEALTH

Northampton County Home Health has provided services to Home Health patients in Northampton County since 1976. The agency is owned and operated by Northampton County Local Government and is housed in the Northampton County Health Department. Home Health services through the Northampton County Home Health Agency are available to those who: 1) live in Northampton County or the surrounding area; 2) are in need of home health services; 3) are under the care of a physician. Home Health care is provided in the comfort and privacy of the patient's home by a highly trained staff working directly under the written orders of the patient's physician. Services may include: Skilled nursing, Infusion Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy. Support services may include: Home Health Aides, Medical Social Worker, Nutritional Services.

Northampton County Home Health Agency coordinates services with other health agencies in the area to assure the most comprehensive level of care to patients. These include: Hospice, Home Delivered Meals, Durable Medical Equipment, and Pharmacy Consultation. Services may be paid by: Medicare, Private Insurance, Medicaid, Veteran's Administration, Private Pay, Workman's Compensation. In addition, other financial arrangements may be available. Northampton County Home Health Agency is: certified for Medicare & Medicaid, licensed by the State of N.C., a member of the Northampton County Chamber of Commerce and a member of the N.C. Alliance of Public Health Agencies.



Major accomplishments of the agency in the 2007-2008 fiscal year were the implementation of an electronic records system and the award of accreditation with deemed status.

BOARD OF HEALTH

William R. Futrell, Jr., PharmD

Public Member

Dr. Thomas Vinson, Vice-Chairman

Dentist Member

Mr. Thomas Bell
Public Member
(representing the agricultural community)

Mr. Scott Emory
Professional Engineer Member

Mrs. Delois Purnell
Public Member
(representing education)

Dr. James Brown, DVM
Veterinarian Member

Reverend Willie Greene
Public Member
(representing faith based community)

Ms. Attemerell Smith, RN, BSN
Registered Nurse Member

Dr. Raven Deloatch
Physician Member

Reverend James Hester
Commissioner Member

Mr. Mitchell Taylor
Pharmacist member

DRIVE-THRU FLU CLINIC

Northampton County Health Department held its 2nd annual drive-thru flu clinic on Sunday, October 21, 2007. One hundred fifty-nine residents were vaccinated. The first drive-thru flu clinic was held in October, 2006 as an Incident Command exercise to test agency preparedness in handling a pandemic flu incident. All staff participated in the exercise as well as other local government agencies (Sheriff's Dept., Emergency Management (County & State), County Management, Public Works Dept., and the regional PHRST unit.



MARCH OF DIMES GRANT:

In fiscal year 2007-2008 the March of Dimes of North Carolina awarded a grant to Northampton County Health Department to support a Healthy Mother/Healthy Baby program that is aimed at underserved maternal and child health needs in the county.

The program provided risk reduction education by offering at-risk maternity patients a comprehensive understanding of good nutrition, safe exercise during pregnancy, the purpose of prenatal supplements and child safety through the use of videos, poster, pamphlets and certified training from the Smart Start program on the correct usage of car seats. March of Dimes grant funding was used as "seed" money to meet the agency's objective of providing mothers and babies with car safety seats through Smart Start and supplies education materials relative to folic acid for the prevention of birth defects."