

Buncombe

Mission Hospital, CarePartners, Park Ridge Health & Buncombe County HHS

Please see Buncombe County CHIP for full list of partners involved in this award winning collective impact approach to community health improvement.

Community Health Priorities & Strategy Highlights

Healthy Living

- Access to foods from local farms
- Access to free, open, public food sources
- Retail sources of nutritious foods in low-access communities
- Financial access to nutritious foods for low-income residents
- Education about local sources for nutritious foods
- Organizational policy and environmental support for healthy food access
- Healthy school environments
- Complete streets policies and practices
- Increase organizational environments, policies and communities that support active transportation
- Increase community recreational and fitness resources
- Organizational environments to support physical activity
- Breastfeeding policies, education and outreach

Preconception Health

- Preconception health trainings for providers & consumers
- Community ambassador peer trainings in preconception health
- Making proud choices curriculum
- Youth empowerment and leadership in reproductive health
- Reproductive health and safety curriculum in schools
- Expedited protocol for birth control prescription
- Enrollment of eligible women in the be smart family planning Medicaid waiver
- Teen reproductive health and safety case management
- Women's healthcare at methadone clinics
- Integrated targeted HIV and STD testing services
- Case management, nursing assessment, and care plans for pregnant and postpartum women
- Postpartum visits and integrated care



Spotlight on Success

The "Clinical-Community Connections" CHIP team is led by Buncombe County Health and Human Services and consists of community partners such as Mission Hospital, YMCA, YWCA, Land of Sky Regional Council, WNC Medical Society, Community Transformation Grant project, Community Care of WNC, MAHEC, and several primary care practices. The primary aim of this team is increasing referrals from primary care to community programs that address chronic disease.

The team selected a pilot between community programs and a few clinical practices, focusing on diabetes.

Mission Hospital and the YWCA developed baseline measures, and the participating community programs provided data to establish baseline. A referral tool was drafted to help clinic staff find the best fit for

patients. Representatives from 5 primary care practices met to share feedback and draft new referral processes. Soon, a roll-out of changes will be implemented to increase referrals from primary care to 4 community diabetes programs.





Early Childhood Development

- Training and technical assistance to support early educators and childcare providers in maintaining and increasing program quality.
- Advocate for increased investment and ensure access to subsidized childcare through vouchers, NC pre-k, early head start, and head start.
- Child care co-ops for low-income families.
- Parenting education that supports effective parenting practices, healthy interaction with children, appropriate developmental expectations, and provides child development referral resources.
- Parent support groups in the community for families to help them build on their strengths and enhance social support systems.
- Community education and case management/care coordination for families experiencing or at risk for child.
- High quality trainings for early educators to screen and for health care providers to identify young children with special health care and developmental needs.
- Case management/care coordination for children with special health care and developmental needs.
- Education and advocacy initiatives to reduce the incidence of poverty and its impact on children and early childhood development.

Clinical Community Connections

- Increase connectivity and referrals between the clinical setting and community programs

**For more information on
community health improvement in
Buncombe County, visit:**

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