

Chatham Health Alliance

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

As the 2017 Chatham Health Alliance Vice Chair, and the 2018 Chair, I am inspired by the work and accomplishments achieved by the Alliance in 2017. Through collaborative efforts of county leaders, concerned citizens, non-profit agencies, public agencies and community organizations, the Alliance can count a number of successes in 2017. This report highlights some of these successes, and thanks our many members for making them possible. If you are not already a member, there is much work to do in 2018, and we hope you will join us!

— Tammy Needham, Vice President/ Chief Nursing Office at Chatham Hospital and 2018 Alliance Chair

2017 OVERVIEW

Maintained contact with...
182
community members

Added **68** new contacts

50+ organizations represented
aging education transportation safety recreation faith nonprofit business government youth mental health health ... and more

“The purpose of the Chatham Health Alliance is to bring both traditional and nontraditional partners together to work on all issues affecting health in Chatham County, with a focus on the health priorities identified in the Community Health Assessment – Obesity, Access to Mental Health Services, and Access to Healthcare. Members of the Alliance strive to share resources and work together to enhance existing efforts and achieve a greater collective impact than we would individually.”

Our 2017 meetings have included a number of wonderful speakers, and we would again like to thank them for sharing their expertise and time with us:

- “Potential Changes in Healthcare and How They Will Impact the Local Community” - Abby DeVries (Medical Director, Piedmont Health Services)
- “Update from El Vinculo Hispano/ Hispanic Liason” - Ilana Dubester (Founder and Executive Director), Janet Ramirez (Program Coordinator)
- “Update from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services” - Mark Benton (Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Health and Human Services)
- “Update from the Town of Siler City” - Bryan Thompson (Town Manager), Joseph Keel (Parks and Recreation Director)
- “Update from the Town of Pittsboro” - Jeff Jones (Town Planner), Paul Horne (Parks and Recreation Director)
- “NC Medicaid Transformation” - Debra Farrington (Senior Program Manager, NC Department of Health and Human Services)

3 subcommittees of the Alliance:



Obesity



Access Mental Health Services



Access to Healthcare

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Chatham County was one of 10 communities to receive a Spotlight Award in the Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge for our collaborative efforts to incorporate health into the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan. The Alliance was awarded \$25,000, which will be used to implement recommendations and strategies from the Health Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Alliance’s work in starting Exercise is Medicine was also recognized with the Health Transformation Award at the 2017 Communities Joined in Action Conference. The award is given to one idea or project nationally that “demonstrates a breakthrough model that achieves better health outcomes, addresses health inequities/disparities, improves access to health care or promotes a culture of health.”

THANK YOU

The Alliance would like to thank our 2017 Leadership Team:

Daisy Womble, Chair
Tammy Needham, Vice Chair
Jessica Mashburn, Obesity Chair
Debra Henzey, Access to Mental Health Services Chair
Leslie Sharpe, Access to Healthcare Chair
Layton Long, Health Director



OBESITY

2017 was a year of growth for the Obesity Subcommittee, marking the second year of support through the Duke Endowment's Healthy People Healthy Carolinas program. Work in 2017 included continued efforts around the Exercise is Medicine program, planning and the built environment, and the launch of Worksite Wellness Chatham. The subcommittee also partnered with Chatham Hospital to implement a Healthy Hospitals program in the cafeteria, and began two new initiatives focused on youth, childcare food environments and Safe/Active Routes to Schools. In 2018, the subcommittee will continue to grow and expand these programs.

ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH

The Access to Mental Health Services Subcommittee developed awareness materials around substance abuse and treatment, and helped host a countywide Opioid Abuse Leadership Summit with 70+ attendees. The subcommittee also helped secure a more effective "safety net" mental health provider, Daymark, as well as formed a new IDD (Intellectual and Developmentally Disabled) Services Work Group to identify gaps in IDD services. Two resource guides were also published, around mental health (chathamnc.org/mentalhealth) and substance abuse (chathamnc.org/recovery). Moving forward, the subcommittee has agreed to serve as the community team for the regional mental health managed care organization (MCO).

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

In 2017, the Access to Healthcare subcommittee focused on better understanding the opportunities and threats to healthcare access in Chatham County. This included a network analysis to identify gaps, redundancies, and opportunities for improved coordination between organizations providing medical, mental health, and social services in Chatham County. The subcommittee also provided issue and policy updates for the Alliance-at-large. Moving forward, the subcommittee will implement recommendations from the network analysis, and gather stakeholders to proactively address identified gaps in health care with the upcoming Medicaid transformation.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Interagency Fair

On June 15th the Alliance hosted its first Interagency Fair. Organized by the Access to Healthcare Subcommittee, the Interagency Fair brought together over 75 individuals from over 30 agencies across the county. The Interagency Fair provided a platform for Alliance members to learn about services available in the county, and forge valuable connections to create a stronger network of care in Chatham County.

Community Conversations

The Alliance hosted the first in a series of Community Conversations on November 2nd. The goal of Community Conversations is to hear directly from Chatham residents about community needs, and create a space for community-based planning, education, and advocacy. Community Conversations will continue to take place across the county in 2018.

Chatham County Comprehensive Plan Health Element

On November 27th the Board of Commissioners approved the Chatham County Comprehensive Plan, including a Health Element developed through collaboration between the Planning Department, Public Health Department, and the Alliance. The Health Element embedded a Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach in the Comprehensive Plan, and established health and equity as cornerstones for Chatham's growth over the next 25 years. The recommended policies and strategies outlined will guide Alliance work moving forward.



www.ChathamHealthAllianceNC.org



(919) 545-8443



healthalliance@chathamnc.org



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