



## ALAMANCE COUNTY Health Department

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Public Health Month- April 2017

#### *Health Department Celebrates Public Health Month*

**BURLINGTON-** With 79 years of public health service to the residents of Alamance County, the Alamance County Health Department is proud to celebrate Public Health Month. The health department has contributed a vast amount of essential services to those who live in Alamance County and has made it a mission to protect and improve the public's health. The month of April is designated as Public Health Month, a time set aside to raise awareness of the role that public health professionals play in preventing disease and promoting healthy choices. It is also seen as a time to recognize the contributions of public health by public health professionals.

A continued focus on prevention in Alamance County has resulted in an increase in life expectancy from 58 years to 77.4 years since 1938; and a more than a 50% decrease in teen pregnancy rates and infant mortality in the last decade; and a total of 7,495 dental health visits and 4,048 environmental health inspections, evaluation, and specimens collected in 2016. In addition, public health is tackling some of the root causes of poor health with their involvement in the Stepping Up Initiative and Alamance Achieves. These are all great improvements and accomplishments which need to be celebrated.

“Public Health Month provides an opportunity for us locally to celebrate and create public awareness of the vital role public health plays in our everyday lives,” said Health Director Stacie Saunders. “We are dedicated and proud to partner with our community to improve the health, in all ways, in Alamance County.”

The Alamance County Commissioners and Board of Health will recognize the Alamance County Health Department by proclamation at an upcoming meeting in April.

The public health profession is composed of a variety of disciplines including, but not limited to, nurses, health educators, epidemiologists, environmental health specialists, medical doctors, social workers, clerical staff, dental professionals, nutritionists and a multitude of others working together as a team to ensure that the community is free of disease and injury and can continue to live a quality life.

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**Committed to Protecting and Improving the  
Public's Health in Alamance County**