

Alamance County Health Department

319 N. Graham-Hopdale Road Suite B. Burlington, NC 27217

State of the County Health Report 2017



This SOTCH Report will be disseminated directly to the Alamance County Board of Health, Alamance County Board of Commissioners, Healthy Alamance Board of Directors, Alamance County United Way, Alamance County Community Council Members, Alamance County Libraries, Alamance-Burlington Schools, and Alamance Regional Medical Center. The information compiled in this report will be posted on the Alamance County website, www.alamance-nc.com, and the Healthy Alamance website, www.healthyalamance.com. A press release will be issued to all local media summarizing the contents of this report. To obtain more information about this SOTCH please contact the Alamance County Health Department at (336) 227-0101. To become more involved with the local initiatives, please contact Healthy Alamance at (336) 513-5590 or Health Education at (336) 229-3665. Your time in reading this report is appreciated.

STATE OF THE COUNTY HEALTH REPORT 2017

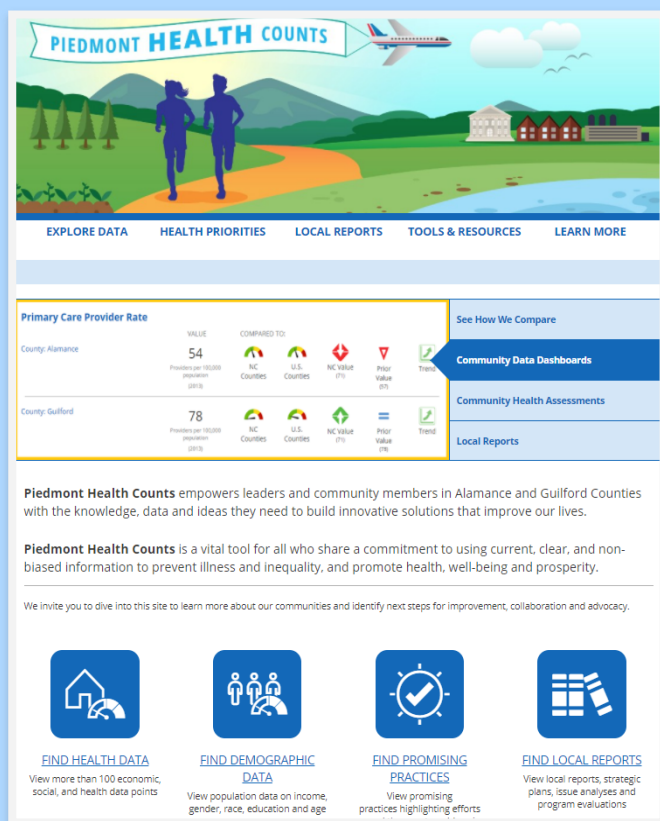
DEMOGRAPHICS

Alamance County At A Glance

Below you will find the demographics for Alamance County and the state of North Carolina. Alamance County consists of nine municipalities. Burlington is the most populated city in the county while Graham is the county seat and second most populated city in the county.

Population	Alamance County	North Carolina
Total Population (2016 est.)	159,688	10,146,788
White	69.5%	68.9%
African American	19.5%	21.5%
Hispanic or Latino	12.6%	9.2%
Asian	1.4%	2.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.5%	1.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.1%
Some Other Race	7.0%	3.0%
Two or More Races	2.0%	2.6%
Median Household Income (2012-2016)	\$43,209	\$49,411
Per Capita Income (2012-2016)	\$23,989	\$26,779
Persons Below Poverty Level (2012-2016)	18.5%	16.8%
Persons Without Health Insurance (2016)	12.0%	10.4%
Children Living in Poverty (under 18 years old) (2016)	27.5%	21.7%
Households that Received Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits (2014)	16.8%	13.5%
Unemployed (2016)	5.1%	3.8%
Students Eligible for Free & Reduced School Lunch (2011-2012)	55.6%	56.0%

Sources: US Census Bureau, NC Center for Health Statistics, Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center



The Piedmont Health Counts homepage

NEW: REGIONAL DATA HUB

Piedmont Health Counts is a new website dedicated to Alamance and Guilford Counties. It is resource to find county level data on demographics, health, economics, social environment and public safety. Piedmont Health Counts began in 2017 and is supported by a variety of local health and human service providers with the intent of making our communities stronger, healthier, and happier. The data hub is part of a national initiative, known as Healthy People 2020, that tracks approximately 1,200 objectives organized into 42 topic areas, each of which represents an important public health area. Healthy People provides targets for preventing disease and promoting health, as well as, aims to help communities assess their health status and build an agenda for community health improvement. Piedmont Health Counts will help our local communities track their own progress toward health goals and outcomes. The data hub can be access and explored at www.piedmonthealthcounts.org.

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PRIORITY AREA PROGRESS: ACCESS TO CARE

MINORITY DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM



Small changes saved me from Diabetes!
Find out more at DontBe1in3.com

In 2016, the NC General Assembly made funding available to the Division of Public Health for the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities to establish and administer, in consultation with the Chronic Disease and Injury Section, an evidenced-based diabetes prevention program targeting African-Americans, Hispanic/Latinos and American Indians and called it the Minority Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP). The goal of MDPP is to provide 1) a prediabetes and diabetes prevention awareness and marketing campaign in minority communities, 2) community screenings for prediabetes and referrals to Diabetes Prevention Program Lifestyle classes and diabetes self-management programs, and 3) offer the CDC's Lifestyle Classes "Prevent T2" and "Prevenga el T2" to minority communities across NC. These year-long, evidenced-based programs can help people who have prediabetes or who are at high risk for type 2 diabetes make realistic and achievable lifestyle changes, which can cut their risk of developing type 2 diabetes by up to 58% percent (CDC, Preventing Type 2 Diabetes). People who are enrolled in the MDPP Lifestyle classes will learn to incorporate healthier eating and moderate physical activity, as well as problem-solving, stress reduction and coping skills into their daily lives. The Lifestyle classes are held with a trained lifestyle coach over a 12-month period. There are 16 classes held on a weekly basis during the first six months, after that, six or more follow-up classes are held during the last six months.

Alamance County is the lead county for the Local Health Department Region 5 MDPP initiative which includes Caswell, Chatham, Durham, Person, Rockingham, Randolph, Orange and Guilford Counties. Region 5 started this program in December 2016 and by May 2017 had developed a program website, implemented a marketing campaign, held seven regional collaborative meetings, screened 355 individuals, trained 23 Lifestyle Coaches, conducted 12 classes regionally with 110 participants, coordinated 11 screening events, and hosted a regional forum in Guilford County. In the 2017-18 fiscal year, Region 5 has continued to add new classes, train new coaches and collaborate with new partners in the community.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

In 2017, the Alamance County Health Department convened the Alamance County Affordable Care Act (ACA) workgroup for the fourth year, which aims to decrease the rate of uninsured residents by increasing enrollment on the ACA Health Insurance Marketplace. The ACA workgroup is comprised of partner agencies including the Alamance County Health Department, Alamance County Public Libraries, Alamance County Department of Social Services, Legal Aid of NC, Alamance Regional Medical Center, Piedmont Health Services and others. The workgroup continued to provide uninsured residents with assistance in accessing the ACA Health Insurance Marketplace during the 2018 Open Enrollment period through participating in several outreach events in the community such as Alamance Pride, United Way Community Council, and NC Med-Assist's Over the Counter Giveaway. Before the Open Enrollment period, Elon-Alamance Health Partners (EAHPs) were trained as Certified Application Counselors. The EAHPs are recent Elon University graduates completing a year of service in community health in health-service agencies across the county. During the Open Enrollment period, which lasted 45 days, residents were able to schedule free appointments with several of the partners of the workgroup. Following the completion of Open Enrollment, the group will continue to meet and identify entry points for health literacy programming through dissemination of the Coverage to Care booklet offered for free by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

The uninsured rate for residents 18-64 years old in Alamance County decreased from 14.1% in 2015 to 12% in 2016 (US Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates)

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PRIORITY AREA PROGRESS: ACCESS TO CARE

BREASTFEEDING PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

The WIC program of Alamance County provides a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program that is available to all prenatal and postpartum women. Breastfeeding contributes to both short and long term health benefits for the mother-baby dyad. The Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program serves as an integral piece in the health education and support centered on breastfeeding in an effort to increase the health of future generations. The Peer Counselors increase the community's access to care by offering both home and hospital visits to provide support and encouragement to newly postpartum women. A dedicated 24-hr Breastfeeding Support line is available to increase access to assistance and support, along with a newly formed partnership with Alamance Regional Medical Center Cone Health (ARMC). The partnership with ARMC has created a specific reoccurring day and time for WIC clients to schedule out-patient lactation services with an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC). On average our Breastfeeding Peer Counselors, consisting of two full-time employees, assist 415 clients monthly with breastfeeding education, support, and encouragement. Due to their work within the community and their dedication to increasing the awareness and acceptance of breastfeeding the Alamance County Health Department, along with WIC, received the Breastfeeding Friendly Business and Workplace Award by the North Carolina Breastfeeding Coalition in 2017.



Health Department staff receive the Breastfeeding Friendly Business and Workplace Award

HEALTHY BEGINNINGS

The goal of the Healthy Beginnings program is to address the disparity between white and minority infant mortality in the state of North Carolina. In 2016, the overall infant mortality rate in North Carolina was 7.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, while the non-Hispanic African American infant mortality rate was 13.4. The overall infant mortality rate for Alamance County was slightly lower than the state rate at 7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Currently, non-Hispanic African Americans are 1.27 times more likely to experience an infant death than their white counterparts. Additionally, Hispanic babies are 1.73 times more likely to experience an infant death than white counterparts. This is a marked reduction in risk compared to a decade ago when minorities were more than 2.5 times more likely to experience an infant death (NC SCHS, 2017).

Based on the Partners for a Healthy Baby curriculum (Florida State University), the target population for the Healthy Beginnings program in Alamance County is minority women who are uninsured. The family receives case management services until the child is two years of age. Over the past year and a half, with a caseload of up to 49, the Healthy Beginnings Case Manager has had over 90% of participants attend all prenatal care visits. Over 95% of participants attended postpartum visits, 100% of participants initiated breastfeeding and 55% of participants have breastfed for six months or longer. Additionally, participants took part in community events such as World Breastfeeding Week at North Park Farmers' Market, and home safety education and car seat checks with Safe Kids Alamance County. To maintain a healthy lifestyle, participants even developed their own walking group, with the assistance of the Healthy Beginnings Case Manager.

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PRIORITY AREA PROGRESS: EDUCATION

Partners in Literacy



Studies show there is still a 30 million word gap between wealthy families and families living in poverty. This vocabulary disparity can make a difference in a child's readiness for school. There are two programs available in Alamance County for families of children from birth to five years of age aimed at getting more books, and therefore more words, into the hands of children.

Reach Out and Read has been serving Alamance County families since 2006 and can be found at many local pediatric practices, including Burlington Pediatrics, Piedmont Health Services and Alamance County Health Department. Between 2015 and 2016, 500 new children were added to Reach Out and Read and 1582 were served in total (Alamance Partnership for Children, 2017-2018 Annual Report).

Dolly Parton Imagination Library is available to all children under five in Alamance County. Through this program, children are eligible to receive one developmentally appropriate book per month until their fifth birthday. As of February 2017, 3,356 Alamance County children were enrolled in the program and discovering the magic of reading. Since then an additional 424 children have been added to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, serving 3780 in total (Alamance Partnership for Children, 2018). All children receiving well child visits at the Alamance County Health Department receive a referral to the program. Visit www.alamancechildren.org to register your young child.

For more information, please visit: www.reachoutandread.org or www.alamancechildren.org

Triple P in Daycare Centers

With funding received from Impact Alamance, Alamance County is expanding Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) into daycare and Pre-K centers in 2017. Implementation of the Triple P program will assist childcare providers in ensuring that children are behaviorally kindergarten ready, giving added attention to social skills and emotional regulation.

Alamance Achieves

Alamance Achieves is the Alamance community's collective impact model to address improvement in education outcomes for all children. The initiative utilizes the nationally recognized Strive Together (www.strivetogether.org) framework to organize and guide the work. Alamance Achieves' mission is to engage and align our community to create pathways for every child to thrive, from cradle to career. For more information visit www.alamanceceachieves.com.

At its initiation in 2015, Alamance Achieves established four key goals to support our children on their educational path that include:

- Every child is well, healthy and ready for school
- Every child succeeds in school
- Every child graduates, prepared for post-secondary learning
- Every child is on track to achieve their career goals"

November 2017 marked the official launch of the initiative's first community team, titled the Kindergarten Readiness Network. This network is tasked with ensuring every child is well, healthy and ready to start school. This network is comprised of cross-sector stakeholders, including Alamance County's Health Department, Division of Social Services, Alamance Burlington School System, Alamance Partnership for Children, Head Start, Impact Alamance, Elon University, Holy Comforter Episcopal School, Children's Museum of Alamance County, Alamance Community College, and other passionate community members. The network uses local data to identify and leverage existing community assets and resources that support children and families in preparation for kindergarten. The Kindergarten Readiness Network will continue to grow as it welcomes new partners. This is a long-term initiative, with additional networks addressing all four goals, set to launch in 2018 and beyond.



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PRIORITY AREA PROGRESS: ECONOMY

ALAMANCE WELLNESS COLLABORATIVE

Formed in March 2015, the Alamance Wellness Collaborative convenes partners across many disciplines to implement active living and healthy eating strategies throughout the county. Members include key leaders from planning, public health, business, parks and recreation, education, and nonprofit organizations. By adopting a countywide approach, representatives from different municipalities and agencies can work collectively on shared goals. The Collaborative recognizes the importance of creating environments where current and future residents have access to opportunities to improve their health—including facilities that encourage physical activity, healthy food outlets, healthy school environments, as well as policies and the economic base to support them.

At the completion of the Strategic Plan, the Wellness Collaborative achieved community use of all elementary school playgrounds and walking tracks, 7 additional miles on the Haw River trail, a new walking trail at Pleasant Grove Park, 2 miles of bike lane in Graham, an Annual Wellness Summit for community leaders, a new multipurpose sport course at Alamance Community College, enhancement of the walking trail at Town and County in Burlington, new sidewalk on Graham-Hopedale Road to improve safe walking and connectivity to public transit, new outdoor fitness equipment at Mebane Arts Center, and promotion and support of the Burlington Greenway Project.



The Collaborative completed a three-year Strategic Plan, identifying the above strategies to guide its work in Alamance County:

Company Shops Market

In an effort to strike a balance between social mission and commercial enterprise, Healthy Alamance is currently providing management and sustainability consultation to Company Shops Market. This hybrid business model promotes local food systems, furthers the access to healthy foods and supports local business; all with a population health perspective.

The partnership between Healthy Alamance and Company Shops is aligned with the Economy Priority because:

- ◆ Company Shops Market's mission to increase access to local food
- ◆ Its geographic location in Downtown Burlington, one of the larger food deserts in Alamance County
- ◆ Its position as the cornerstone of Downtown Burlington's economic vitality and growth.



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PRIORITY AREA PROGRESS: ECONOMY

NORTH PARK FARMERS MARKET

Healthy Alamance has been awarded funds to build the first permanent farmers' market structure in Alamance County. Healthy Alamance and the North Park Steering Committee in conjunction with the City of Burlington will build a permanent structure for the weekly Farmers' Market at North Park. This structure will house the market year-round and serve as a model in Alamance County for a full capacity farmers' market. Research will be done to further assess the community and partnerships will be explored to offer education and collaborations to build community resources. The Collaborative sees this joint planning/public health project as an opportunity to utilize the farmers' market structure to support health behavior changes and the economic viability of Alamance County farmers in an integral way that contributes to the long-term health of the neighborhood. This project provides the opportunity to demonstrate a transition from reactive to proactive planning – a key component to moving a community transformation forward. During 2017, vendor participation doubled, buyer foot traffic tripled, and sales increased by approximately 20%.

Using Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR), Healthy Alamance and Elon University will partner to develop a strong alliance at North Park Farmers' Market in order to improve health and health equity in Alamance County, improve relationships with underserved communities (specifically North Park) in Alamance County, support the development of leadership of North Park community members to advocate for their needs related to food insecurity as well as other needs, and to create media tools to educate the greater county and state about issues related to food consumers and food producers.



Because of the work Healthy Alamance does in North Park and with the nine municipalities which make up Alamance County, other cities and towns are already interested in this pilot project and have asked to follow our work for the next year. They have requested we consider working with them to engage identified neighborhoods within their jurisdiction and it may serve our project to produce a process for offering this initiative to others within the County. Additionally, the collection of evaluation

and informational data can be used for future grant applications to support the need for funding.

ALAMANCE FOOD COLLABORATIVE

Formed in April 2015, the Alamance Food Collaborative convenes entrepreneurs from the local restaurant industry and private sector, academics from Elon University, public health and healthcare professionals, non-profit leaders, farmers, and local government to focus on creating infrastructure for Alamance County's food system that will have a lasting impact and influence the health of the community and economic viability. The Food Collaborative has been recognized statewide for its unique model linking food policy work to local Community Health Assessment. The Strategic Plan focuses on strategies that increase access to healthy food and go beyond simply raising awareness or conducting educational campaigns and programs. While these are important, the Food Collaborative knows that to improve health outcomes in citizens' lives, it will take a multidisciplinary approach that works across sectors and jurisdictional lines to focus on policy, systemic, and environmental change.

In 2017, the Food Collaborative achieved many successes including conducting first food assessment of Alamance County, creating the first farmer's tool-share in Alamance County, the first Community Coffee forum food related issues in Alamance County, initiating partnership with Elon University Social Poverty and Justice class to have students support strategies found within plan each semester, supporting Aramark at Elon University (committing to sourcing local produce and meat), and receiving funding from Elon University to partner in bringing food equity training to all AFC members. The Alamance Food Collaborative will also be represented on Piedmont Triad Regional Council Health Advisory Workgroup.




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EMERGING ISSUES

COMBATING OPIOID ABUSE

Alamance County, like many counties, has seen increased effects of opioid abuse in recent years. From 2013 to 2016, there were 49 deaths in Alamance County due to opioids (NC Injury & Violence Prevention). In 2017, there were 19 opioid deaths as reported by Alamance County Emergency Medical Services (Note: This is preliminary data. Final data will be released by Division of Public Health in 2018). In an effort to expand the capacity of first responders to reduce the number of opioid deaths, the police departments of Burlington, Elon University, Town of Elon, Gibsonville, Graham, and Mebane, as well as the Alamance County Sheriff's Office, now carry naloxone. In 2017, Alamance County EMS administered 369 doses of naloxone and between 8/1/2013 and 12/31/2017. Through funds from Project Lazarus (NC Injury & Violence Prevention), the health department ran a four week ad at Carousel Theaters in Alamance Crossing to highlight the life-saving effects of naloxone and its availability through our local pharmacies. The ad ran in all PG and R-rated movies from mid-May to early June 2017.

If you are taking ...





- Hydrocodone (Vicodin)
- Oxycodone (OxyContin or Percocet)
- Other opioid painkillers (hydromorphone, morphine, fentanyl)
- Cough syrup with codeine

Ask your health care provider or pharmacist about Naloxone

Naloxone is an emergency medicine that can save your life during an accidental overdose.

Your provider can prescribe naloxone OR your pharmacist may be able to give you naloxone without a prescription

It is covered by Medicaid and most insurance plans.



The Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Task Force, a subcommittee of Alamance Citizens for a Drug Free Community, works to promote the four medicine drop boxes available in Alamance County at the Alamance County Sheriff's Office, Elon University, Burlington, and Mebane Police Departments. The drop boxes allow residents to drop off unused prescription medications, preventing them from being abused or contaminating the water supply. Additionally, this group played an integral role in bringing awareness of the NC Controlled Substances Reporting System to the attention of providers in the county through an opioid forum held in December.

Opioid Forum

The Alamance County Leadership Forum on Opioid Abuse was held on December 8, 2017. This event was planned and coordinated by various organizations including Alamance County Health Department, Cone Health, Alamance County Department of Social Services, Alamance County Manager's office, Alamance County Sheriff's Office, Alamance Citizens for a Drug Free Community, Alamance County Board of Commissioners, Cardinal Innovations and Hospice and Palliative Care Center of Alamance-Caswell. In attendance were local and state officials, as well as representatives from key organizations, including medical professionals, law enforcement, psychiatrists, social service employees and other involved parties. The program featured more than 16 professionals who discussed the opioid epidemic and its impact on Alamance County residents, families, employees and systems. An additional focus of the presentations and panels were to identify resources already in our community, and to expose gaps in access to resources. Participants were guided in a discussion to develop collaborative strategies for effective solutions to improve education, prevention, and treatment gaps. The planning committee will combine these strategies into a follow-up report that will be disseminated to participants, and local leaders will be re-engaged to move forward with identified strategies.



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EMERGING ISSUES

MEDICAID TRANSFORMATION

In 2017, it was announced that the current Medicaid system would be transformed into a managed care system. This will be the first major change to the Medicaid system in 40 years. According to Dave Richard, the NC Deputy Director for Medical Assistance, the proposed design will support: integrating services for physical health, behavioral health, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders; addressing unmet social needs and their effect on overall health; and building on and strengthening what is working well today while supporting providers and beneficiaries through any changes during the transition and beyond. The proposed transformation has received feedback from many across the state, including the NC Association of Local Health Directors. Their response, in part, stated that public health departments in NC currently provide both medical and non-medical health related services, programs, referral, and education in every one of North Carolina's 100 counties with a mission to protect and promote health. The strong public health system in NC has made it a model for others in the nation. It is depended upon by our state's most vulnerable populations, and its services fill gaps identified in community health needs assessments and provide the kind of care, upstream planning, and response including communicable disease, family planning, nutrition counseling, care management, and immunizations. Public health is an integral partner in the progress and success of Medicaid Transformation. For more information: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid-transformation>

CHANGES IN MENTAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION BOARD

Cardinal Innovations is the managed care organization authorized under state law to provide essential behavioral services in Alamance County. As of November 27th, 2017, NC DHHS assumed leadership of Cardinal Innovations due to potential mismanagement of funds and a necessary restructuring of their board. This move was temporary with the goal of stabilizing the organization and returning its focus to the consumers and families that Cardinal serves. During this interim period, DHHS staff were on site at Cardinal Innovations and worked closely with interim CEO Trey Suttan and other Cardinal staff to manage and stabilize the organization, hire additional executive team members and develop a corrective action plan to bring Cardinal into compliance with all applicable laws. A new board, made up of local representatives from the county served, is anticipated to be identified and established in early 2018. This temporary action is authorized under N.C. G.S. 122C-115.4, which authorizes DHHS to temporarily remove LME functions from an entity that demonstrates serious financial mismanagement or serious regulatory noncompliance.

The transition of the managed entity board has not deterred operations or utilization of services. Outpatient services continued to be the most utilized Medicaid-funded service for fiscal year 2017. Medicaid funded inpatient expenses have increased by 28%, even though member utilization decreased by 7%. Outpatient services also continued to be the most utilized state-funded service, though both utilization and expense have decreased (by 12% and 6%, respectively). Residential services continued to be the highest expense for State-funded services, increasing by 15% compared to the previous fiscal year. Crisis Services have increased in expense by 23% compared to the previous fiscal year, even though utilization experienced a 10% decrease. There was a 148% increase in the utilization of Medicaid-funded Mobile Crisis Management services, with a 162% increase in expenses for these services. There was a 65% increase in utilization of State-funded Facility-Based Crisis services, and a 58% increase in expense for these same services. Utilization of State-funded Mobile Crisis Management Services saw a drop of 31%, even though there was a 20% increase in expenses for these same services.

Alamance County has approximately 183 individuals receiving Innovations Waiver Services, with 43 children and 61 adults on the Waitlist. 220 individuals with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities receive (b)(3) and/or state-funded services. Member Engagement was active in Alamance County in FY 2017 and in the region, had 4,821 individuals participate in activities and/or training. Community Engagement facilitated 128 trainings in the region during the Fiscal Year, with a total participation of 2,201 individuals.

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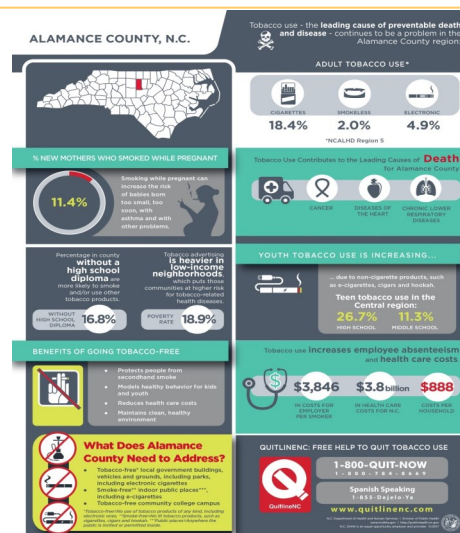
NEW INITIATIVES

Teen-Friendly Clinic

Alamance County Health Department received \$100,000 in grant funding from Impact Alamance in 2017 to expand community access to highly effective, convenient, and evidence-based family planning services through a teen friendly approach to clinical services. SHIFT-NC has been secured as a consultant to conduct a needs assessment of the health department's physical and operational structure in order to identify any barriers or areas of improvement in implementing the teen clinic, as well as areas where the health department excels. Additionally, an inter-organizational committee was formed to shape and determine the direction of the teen clinic initiative.



SMOKE FREE INITIATIVES



Burlington Housing Authority (BHA) properties went Smoke-Free within 25 feet of their entrances on June 1, 2017. NC Division of Public Health Healthy Communities funding was used to assist BHA in purchasing signage for the properties. In addition, the City of Graham adopted a new policy on October 3rd, 2017 that prohibits smoking on all city property and grounds.

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

The Alamance County Health Department recognizes trauma as an important factor that influences health throughout the lifespan. Local and national data indicate that trauma affects the majority of people at some time during their lives. The health department is aware of these events and their implications in the context of our clients and the services we provide. One of the best approaches to this growing crisis is a model called "trauma-informed care" which focuses on organizational activities that incorporate an understanding of the prevalence of trauma and its manifestations in behavior as well as the development of strategies to avoid re-traumatization of clients in our care. Additionally, trauma-informed care is beneficial for staff members who may have had traumatic experiences of their own, or who experience secondary trauma after interacting with clients in a service setting.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, there are six components to a trauma-informed care model (TIC). They include safety, trustworthiness and transparency, peer support, collaboration and mutuality, empowerment, voice and choice, and cultural, historical, and gender issues. In 2015, following in the footsteps of Alamance County Department of Social Services, the Health Department began implementing these core values using a three-pronged approach which involved an initial assessment of the organization by staff, a shift in the physical environment to reflect principles of TIC and finally training and policy changes for organizational culture change.

In 2017, the primary focus of the TIC project was to redesign the physical environment of clinics to ensure that patients feel welcomed and comfortable. Redesigning the space, involved a focus on preventing overstimulation of the senses and creating a safe, supportive environment that is reflected by comfortable, versatile furniture and physical features in the waiting rooms. The redesigning of the health department included transformation to the waiting spaces and hallways including replacement of informational posters with electronic screens, enhanced play areas for children, improved seating options with respect to personal space and privacy, and appropriate and tranquil artwork on the walls to respect the needs of clients who may have a past history of trauma. In addition, the TIC project also developed and began implementation of self-care training to address compassion fatigue and burnout among staff members.

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COUNTY STATISTICS & ANNUAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE DATA

Morbidity and Mortality

Leading Causes of Death (Rates per 100,000 people) (2012-2016)		
Cause of Death	Alamance County	North Carolina
Cancer	218.7	191.5
Heart Disease	202.5	179.9
Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases	67.0	51.1
Alzheimer's Disease	49.8	34.0
Cerebrovascular Disease	52.4	47.3
Nephritis, Nephrotic Syndrome & Nephrosis	35.0	18.2
Other Unintentional Injuries	37.0	33.1
Diabetes	29.9	26.2
Septicemia	16.6	14.6
Influenza & Pneumonia	20.0	19.5
Total Deaths All Causes	1027.2	865.0
Source: NC State Center for Health Statistics (www.schs.state.nc.us/data/databook)		

Annual Performance Numbers

Reported Services	2016	2017
Total Immunizations	4,483	4,338
Total Behavioral Health Visits	N/A	519
WIC Counseling Sessions	12,634	12,407
Family Planning Visits	3,470	3,356
Maternity Clinic Visits	3,225	2,996
Child Health Visits	229	209
Dental Clinic Visits	7,495	7,715
HIV Tests	2,803	2,659
STD Clinic	2,515	2,904
Care Coordination Contacts	24,841	12,534
Total Flu Administered	1,578	1,388
Environmental Health Inspections	2,174	2,335
Health Hazard Inspections	382	193
Well Inspections	194	192
Rabies Vaccinations	93	46
Soil/Site Evaluations	451	421
Collected Water Samples	718	624
Specimen for Rabies Collected	36	44
Environmental Health Community Trainings	19	19
Health Education Encounters	7,069	3,363
Health Education Grants Received	\$199,385	\$310,485
State Lab Tests	7,229	7,339
In-House Lab Tests	6,036	6,042
Lap Corp Tests	5,706	4,021