

**Report to the General Assembly on the SFY 2006-2007 Community Health Grant Funds
From the Office of Rural Health and Community Care**

As part of the 2006-2007 appropriations bill, the General Assembly awarded the Office of Rural Health and Community Care (ORHCC) \$2 million in recurring funds and \$3 million in one-time funds for Community Health Grants. The purpose of the funds was fourfold: 1) to increase access to preventive and primary care services for uninsured or medically indigent patients in existing or new health center locations; 2) to establish community health center services in counties where no such services exist; 3) to create new services or augment existing services provided to uninsured or medically indigent patients, including primary care and preventive medical services, dental services, pharmacy, and behavioral health; and 4) to increase capacity necessary to serve the uninsured by enhancing or replacing facilities, equipment, or technologies. Organizations eligible to apply for the funds were federally qualified health centers, health centers that meet the criteria for federally qualified health centers, state-designated rural health centers, public health departments, and other not-for-profit clinics that provide care to underserved populations.

The ORHCC, through the statewide Safety Net Advisory Committee (SNAC), collaborates with representatives of key safety-net providers as to how the Community Health Grants should be distributed. SNAC was formed in response to the NC Institute of Medicine's 2004 Task Force on the North Carolina Healthcare Safety Net and includes representatives from ORHCC, the Division of Public Health, Area Health Education Centers, the NC Community Health Center Association, the NC Free Clinic Association, the NC Medical Society Foundation, and the NC Hospital Association. All Community Health Grant funding recommendations are reviewed and approved by SNAC.

The \$5 million in allocated funds was divided into two pools: \$2 million from the recurring monies to provide continued support to SFY 2005-2006 community health grantee projects and \$3 million in non-recurring monies to fund new projects. The maximum grant award for both continuation and new project grants was \$75,000 per organization. With the availability of some recurring funds, the goal of the community health grant program is to provide funding to well-qualified grantees for two to three years with the amount of state funding decreasing each year as the projects become self-sustaining.

Requests for continuation grant applications were sent to SFY 2005-2006 community health grantees in May 2006. Thirty-four continuation grant applications totaling just under \$2 million were received. Continuation grants were reviewed by a multi-agency committee consisting of representatives from the ORHCC, the Division of Public Health, the NC Community Health Center Association, and the NC Free Clinic Association. Funding decisions were based on grantees' progress in meeting measurable performance objectives. Approximately \$1.7 million in continuation funding was awarded to 31 applicants with funds dispersal beginning in July 2006. The remaining \$300,000 in recurring funds was used for new project grants.

Requests for new grant applications were distributed in late August and early September. Grant applications were distributed to federally qualified health centers and look-alikes, state designated rural health centers, health departments, free clinics, hospitals operating primary care clinics, AHEC programs, and other not-for-profit safety net providers across the state. Eight-eight organizations submitted new project grant applications. New project grant requests totaled over \$5.7 million, exceeding the available grant funds by \$2.4 million. Fifty-five organizations were funded with the approximately \$3.3 million available. Funds were dispersed to grantees

beginning in December 2006. Table 1 summarizes the continuation grant requests and awards. Table 2 summarizes the new project grant requests and awards.

Table 1
Continuation Grant Requests and Awards by Type of Organization SFY 2006-2007

Organization	Grant Requests		Grant Awards	
	Number	\$ Requested	Number	\$ Awarded
Federally qualified health centers	13	896,767	12	780,528
Free clinics	4	213,980	3	128,480
Public health departments	8	455,075	7	423,717
State-designated rural health centers	9	391,280	9	359,866
Total	34	\$1,957,102	31	\$1,692,591

Table 2
New Project Grant Requests and Awards by Type of Organization SFY 2006-2007

Organization	Grant Requests		Grant Awards	
	Number	\$ Requested	Number	\$ Awarded
AHEC program	2	145,954	0	0
Federally qualified health centers	21	1,505,542	17	1,180,436
Free clinics	21	1,260,969	13	631,460
Free pharmacies	3	220,000	0	0
Hospitals	5	277,080	3	164,076
Other safety-net providers	7	435,000	5	331,860
Public health departments	18	1,043,399	12	623,417
State-designated rural health centers	11	835,939	5	376,250
Total	88	\$5,723,883	55	\$3,307,499

The 34 organizations that received continuation funds are summarized in Appendix A. All continuation applicants demonstrated progress in meeting their SFY 2005-2006 community health grant evaluation goals. The intent of the continuation grant funds was to maintain the increased access to care supported by the SFY 2005-2006 awards.

The 55 organizations that received new project funds are summarized in Appendix B. These 55 organizations are projected to serve 29,995 uninsured and medically –indigent persons in

North Carolina this year. These new patients will be served through a variety of projects, including:

- Expansion of core primary care services in Chowan, Columbus, Cumberland, Hertford, Robeson, and Warren counties;
- Expansion of Ob/Gyn and women's health services in Dare, Northampton, and Sampson counties;
- Expansion of behavioral and mental health services in Alamance, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, New Hanover, Stanly, and Transylvania counties;
- Expansion of pharmaceutical services to the uninsured and medically-indigent in Sampson and Scotland counties; and
- Expansion of dental services to the uninsured and medically indigent in Edgecombe, Iredell, Jackson, Northampton, Person, Union, Wake and Wilson counties.

The \$5 million in recurring and one-time funds awarded in SFY 2006-2007 will positively impact the care provided to the uninsured and medically-indigent residents of North Carolina. However, as the number of new project grant applications unable to be funded illustrates, there is a need for expanded funding and support to reach out to North Carolina's uninsured residents. If all new project applications could have been funded, an additional 21,000 persons would have received access to health care this year. Core primary care, pharmaceutical, and dental services would have been provided in an additional thirteen counties across the state. Increasing the amount of recurring funds appropriated to the community health grant program will strengthen North Carolina's health care safety-net and aid North Carolina's uninsured and medically vulnerable residents in gaining access to care.

Appendix A
SFY 2006-2007 Community Health Center CONTINUATION Grant Recipients by County

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Alamance County			
Alamance County Health Department	HD	\$60,766	Maintain access to pediatric dental services
Allegheny County			
SHARE Clinic	RHC	\$26,630	Continue the Medical Access Plan (MAP) program.
Bladen County			
Bladen Medical Associates	RHC	\$50,000	Continue the Medical Access Plan (MAP) program.
Buncombe County			
Buncombe County Health Center	HD	\$75,000	Maintain acute/episodic walk-in clinic for uninsured clients.
Cabarrus County			
Cabarrus Community Health Center	FQHC	\$75,000	Support operations of medical center which opened earlier with assistance of community health center grant
Caldwell County			
West Caldwell Health Council	RHC	\$26,218	Maintain access to pharmaceuticals through the medication assistance program.
Catawba County			
Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Maintain expanded hours of operation
Cleveland County			
Cleveland County Primary Care Network	RHC	\$22,598	Maintain access to medication assistance program for sliding fee scale and indigent patients.
Columbus County			
Columbus Community Health Services	RHC	\$40,000	Maintain access to medication assistance program for low income and uninsured patients.
Cumberland County			
Stedman-Wade Health Services	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain access to obstetrics care

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Duplin County			
Goshen Medical Center	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain access to OB/Gyn services for uninsured and low income women
Edgecombe County			
Rocky Mount OIC Family Medical Center	RHC	\$50,000	Maintain access to preventative and primary care services by uninsured patients
Franklin County			
Franklin County Health Department	HD	\$37,500	Maintain access to prenatal and postpartum care through employment of a Family Nurse Practitioner.
Gaston County			
Gaston Family Health Services	FQHC	\$63,822	Continue to increase access to preventative and primary care services by uninsured or medically indigent patients
Greene County			
Greene County Health Care	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain access to preventative and primary care services by uninsured or medically indigent patients in the service area.
Halifax County			
Rural Health Group, Inc	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain access to dental services
Lee County			
Helping Hand Clinic, Inc.	Free Clinic	\$25,000	Maintain access to the chronic care program and expanded hours of operation for the pharmacy
Madison County			
Hot Springs Health Program	FQHC Look-alike	\$52,520	Maintain access to behavioral health care, health education, and case management for uninsured patients
Mecklenburg County			
C.W. Williams Community Health Center	FQHC	\$59,063	Maintain access to care for homeless patients and HIV/AIDS patients
Nash County			
Carolina Family Health Centers, Inc.	FQHC	\$67,300	Maintain pharmacy access and the Medication Adherence Clinic (MAC program)

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Northampton County			
<i>See Rural Health Group, Inc. listed under Halifax County</i>			
Orange County			
Orange County Health Department	HD	\$43,346	Maintain expanded hours of service
Pasquotank County			
Albemarle Hospital Foundation, Inc	Free Clinic	\$28,480	Maintain expanded hours of operation
Pender County			
Pender County Health Department	HD	\$75,000	Maintain expanded hours of operation for pediatric and maternity clinics
Robeson County			
Robeson County Health Department	HD	\$63,000	Maintain access to basic Ob/Gyn services
Robeson Health Care Corporation	FQHC	\$71,000	Increase access to primary and preventive medical services by uninsured or medically indigent patients in the service area.
Sampson County			
Tri-County Community Health Council	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain access to dental services, primary care, and pharmaceuticals for uninsured patients
Stanly County			
Stanly County Health Department	HD	\$31,605	Maintain access to dental services for children
Surry County			
Surry County Health & Nutrition Center	HD	\$75,000	Maintain access to primary care and pharmaceutical services
Vance County			
Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan	FQHC	\$34,343	Maintain access to medical and dental services for uninsured patients
Wake County			
Wake Health Services Inc	FQHC	\$35,000	Maintain access to dental care for children and uninsured patients
Wayne County			
WATCH Program	Free Clinic	\$41,900	Maintain access to primary and preventive medical services for uninsured patients

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Wilkes County			
Mountain View Medical Center	RHC	\$50,000	Continue the Medical Access Plan (MAP) program.
<i>See West Caldwell Health Council listed under Caldwell County</i>			
Wilson County			
<i>See Carolina Family Health Centers, Inc. listed under Nash County</i>			

Abbreviations

FQHC = Federally-qualified health center HD = Health department RHC = Rural health clinic

Appendix B
SFY 2006-2007 Community Health Center NEW PROJECT Grant Recipients by County

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Alamance County			
Alamance County Health Department	HD	\$75,000	Provide mental health and substance abuse services to maternity patients.
Piedmont Health Services	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand access and improve quality of care through implementation of electronic health records and updated IT
Ashe County			
Ashe County Free Medical Clinic	Free Clinic	\$74,766	Increase the number of uninsured diabetic patients served
Bertie County			
Bertie County Rural Health Association	FQHC	\$66,965	Increase access to primary care by adding new exam rooms
<i>See Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center listed under Hertford County</i>			
Bladen County			
<i>See Tri County Community Health Council listed under Sampson County</i>			
Cabarrus County			
Cabarrus Community Health Centers	FQHC	\$75,000	Increase access to primary care by adding new exam rooms
Cabarrus Health Alliance	HD	\$49,827	Expand the provision of STD services to the uninsured
Camden County			
Albemarle Hospital Foundation	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Increase access to primary care by renovating clinic space
Caswell County			
Caswell Family Medical Centers	FQHC	\$75,000	Increase access to services by improved efficiencies through replacement of out-dated x-ray equipment
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			
Chatham County			
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Chowan County			
Chowan Hospital Foundation	Hospital	\$45,326	Expand primary care services by opening a new clinic
<i>See Albemarle Hospital Foundation listed under Camden County</i>			
Columbus County			
Bolton Health and Wellness Center	RHC	\$104,146	Expand services to diabetic patients. Participate in the ORHCC Medical Access Plan (MAP) program
Columbus County Community Health Center	RHC	\$75,000	Expand access and improve quality of care through implementation of electronic health records
Cumberland County			
Cape Fear Regional Bureau for Community Action	Other	\$75,000	Expand access to diabetes case management services for the uninsured
CARE Clinic	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Maintain access to primary care services by completing critical building repairs
Stedman Wade Health Services	FQHC	\$75,000	Renovate main clinic and administrative offices
Dare County			
Dare County Health Department	HD	\$26,658	Increase access to Ob/Gyn services for uninsured patients
Duplin County			
Goshen Medical Center	FQHC	\$75,000	Increase access to services by improved efficiencies through replacement of out-dated x-ray equipment
Durham County			
Healing with CAARE	Other	\$71,860	Increase access to primary care by renovating clinic space
Lincoln Community Health Center	FQHC	\$74,910	Modernize exam rooms and waiting areas
Edgecombe County			
Edgecombe County Health Department	HD	\$68,163	Increase access to dental services by renovating and updating dental clinic
Forsyth County			
Community Care Center for Forsyth County	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Increase access to services by improved efficiencies through replacement of out-dated x-ray equipment

Gaston County			
Gaston Family Health Services	FQHC	\$74,790	Increase access to behavioral and mental health services
Gates County			
<i>See Albemarle Hospital Foundation listed under Camden County</i>			
<i>See Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center listed under Hertford County</i>			
Guilford County			
Guildford Child Health	Other	\$75,000	Increase access to care by outfitting exam rooms at new facility
Halifax County			
Halifax Regional Medical Center	Hospital	\$55,750	Expand AIDS/HIV case management services
Rural Health Group, Inc	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand access to dental services by adding operatories
Scotland Neck Family Medical Center	RHC	\$75,000	Expand access and improve quality of care through implementation of electronic health records
Haywood County			
Good Samaritan Clinic	Free Clinic	\$25,000	Expand mental health services to the uninsured
Henderson County			
Blue Ridge Community Health Services	FQHC	\$55,000	Expand access to behavioral health services for the uninsured
Henderson County Free Medical Clinic	Free Clinic	\$40,694	Expand case management services to the uninsured
Hertford County			
Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center	FQHC Look-alike	\$75,000	Expand access to primary care by opening new clinic
Hyde County			
Engelhard Medical Center	RHC	\$61,248	Provide access to x-ray services through purchase of x-ray equipment
Ocracoke Health Center	RHC	\$60,856	Increase access through improved efficiencies from updated laboratory equipment and IT

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Iredell County			
Iredell County Health Department	HD	\$73,481	Increase access to dental services through outfitting new exam and treatment rooms
Jackson County			
Blue Ridge Mountain Health Project	Free Clinic	\$15,000	Increase access to dental services through improved efficiencies from new dental equipment
Jones County			
<i>See Goshen Medical Center listed under Duplin County</i>			
Lincoln County			
Lincoln County Health Department	HD	\$37,825	Increase access in partnership with local free clinic through improved efficiencies from updated telephone system and IT.
Macon County			
<i>See Blue Ridge Mountain Health Project listed under Jackson County</i>			
Madison County			
Hot Springs Health Program	FQHC Look-alike	\$74,413	Increase access to care through improved efficiencies from new telephone system
Mecklenburg County			
Matthews Volunteers in Medicine Health Clinic	Free Clinic	\$16,000	Planning grant to coordinate community resources and increase access to care
Physicians Reach Out (Mecklenburg County Medical Society Foundation)	Other	\$35,000	Implement case management services for the uninsured
New Hanover County			
New Hanover Community Health Center	FQHC	\$22,500	Increase access to psychiatric and dental services for the uninsured
Northampton County			
Northampton County Health Department	HD	\$18,500	Expand Ob/Gyn services through the purchase of medical equipment
<i>See Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center listed under Hertford County</i>			
<i>See Rural Health Group, Inc. listed under Halifax County</i>			

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Orange County			
Orange County Health Department	HD	\$70,370	Expand access by implementing primary care services at additional locations
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			
Pasquotank County			
<i>See Albemarle Hospital Foundation listed under Camden County</i>			
Pender County			
<i>See Tri County Community Health Council listed under Sampson County</i>			
Perquimans County			
<i>See Albemarle Hospital Foundation listed under Camden County</i>			
Person County			
Person Family Medical Center	FQHC	\$61,858	Increase access to dental services by adding dental operatories
Robeson County			
Indian Health Care	Free Clinic	\$22,502	Increase access to care by expanding hours of operation
Sampson County			
Sampson County Health Department	HD	\$60,300	Expand Ob/Gyn services through the purchase of medical equipment
Tri County Community Health Council	FQHC	\$75,000	Increase access to pharmacy services for uninsured patients
<i>See Goshen Medical Center listed under Duplin County</i>			
Scotland County			
Scotland Community Health Clinic	Free Clinic	\$14,950	Expand access to free pharmaceuticals
Stanly County			
Stokes Reynolds Memorial Hospital	Hospital	\$63,000	Maintain access to outpatient behavioral health services by replacing transport van

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
Transylvania County			
Transylvania County Health Department	HD	\$75,000	Ensure continued access to mental health services by serving as transitional agency
<i>See Blue Ridge Mountain Health Project listed under Jackson County</i>			
Union County			
Union County Health Department	HD	\$53,293	Increase access to dental care by expanding dental clinic space
<i>See Matthews Volunteers in Medicine Health Clinic listed under Mecklenburg County</i>			
Wake County			
Alliance Medical Ministry	Other	\$75,000	Increase access to primary care by adding new exam rooms
Urban Ministries of Wake County	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Expand access to care through support of new building
Wake Health Services, Inc	FQHC	\$75,000	Increase access to dental care by adding operatory and updating equipment
Warren County			
Warren County Free Clinic	Free Clinic	\$50,000	Expand access to primary care
Wayne County			
WATCH Wayne Health Foundation	Free Clinic	\$72,548	Maintain operation of mobile unit to provide primary care services
<i>See Goshen Medical Center listed under Duplin County</i>			
Wilkes County			
Wilkes County Health Department	HD	\$15,000	Improve access to care by implementing after-hours triage system
Wilson County			
Carolina Family Health Centers	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand access to dental services by purchasing equipment for new dental program

Abbreviations

FQHC = Federally-qualified health center HD = Health department RHC = Rural health clinic