

**Summary Report on the SFY 2008-2009 Community Health Grant Funds  
From the Office of Rural Health and Community Care**

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As part of the 2008-2009 appropriations bill, the General Assembly awarded the Office of Rural Health and Community Care (ORHCC) \$2 million in recurring funds and \$4 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, free clinics, public health departments, school-based health centers, and other not-for-profit clinics that provide care to underserved populations.

The ORHCC, through the statewide N.C. Institute of Medicine's Safety Net Advisory Committee (SNAC), collaborates with representatives of key safety net providers as to how the Community Health Grant funds should be distributed. SNAC was formed in response to the Institute'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 \$6 million in allocated funds was divided into two pools: approximately \$2 million to provide continued support to SFY 2007-2008 community health grantee projects and the remaining \$4 million to fund new programs and capital initiatives, less a one percent administrative allocation to ORHCC. However, because of mandatory spending reductions, ORHCC did not take the allowed one percent administration allocation of \$60,000, and an additional \$125,000 was deducted from available grant funds. With a total program reduction of \$185,000 funds remaining for grants totaled \$5,815,000. Similar to prior years, the maximum grant awards ranged from \$75,000 for continuation, new project, and small capital grants to \$150,000 for large capital grants.

Requests for continuation grant applications were sent to SFY 2007-2008 community health grantees in May 2008. Thirty-three continuation grant applications, with requests totaling approximately \$1.7 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, the NC Free Clinic Association, and the NC Institute of Medicine. Funding decisions were based on grantees' progress in meeting measurable performance objectives. Approximately \$1.5 million was awarded through 33 grants with fund dispersal beginning in July 2008. Table 1 summarizes the continuation grant requests and awards by organizational type.

Table 1  
Continuation Grant Requests and Awards by Type of Organization SFY 2008-2009

Organization	Grant Requests		Grant Awards	
	Number	\$ Requested	Number	\$ Awarded
Federally qualified health centers	8	\$521,490	8	\$457,490
Free clinics / Free pharmacy	14	675,041	14	634,975
Hospitals	2	43,010	2	43,010
Public health departments	5	300,765	5	271,482
State-designated rural health centers	3	110,708	3	95,008
School based/linked health centers	1	50,000	1	50,000
Total	33	\$1,701,014	33	\$1,551,965

Requests for new project applications were distributed in late August. 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, school-based health centers, and other not-for-profit safety net providers across the state. One hundred and nineteen grant applications were submitted for new program and capital projects. New project grant requests totaled just over \$10.5 million, exceeding the available grant funds by \$6 million. These 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, the NC Free Clinic Association, AHEC, and the NC Institute of Medicine. Forty-two organizations received 50 grants with the approximately \$4.3 million in available funds (organizations could apply in multiple grant categories). Depending upon the type of grant an organization received, funds were dispersed beginning in December 2008 (Medical Access Plan (MAP), program, small capital) or January 2009 (large capital). Table 2 summarizes the new project grant requests and awards.

Table 2  
New Project Grant Requests and Awards by Type of Organization SFY 2007-2008

Organization	Grant Requests		Grant Awards	
	Number	\$ Requested	Number	\$ Awarded
CCNC programs	2	\$150,000	1	\$75,000
Federally qualified health centers	29	3,209,478	22	2,312,164
Free clinics	22	1,638,551	4	261,800
Free pharmacies	1	75,000	0	0
Hospitals	15	1,244,797	7	517,381
Other safety-net providers	11	836,883	2	125,520
Public health departments	21	1,789,348	6	495,551
School-based health centers	13	1,191,620	5	213,933
State-designated rural health centers	5	380,336	3	261,686
Total	119	\$10,516,013	50	\$4,263,035

The 32 organizations that received the 33 continuation grants are summarized in Appendix A (one organization was eligible for both a year two and a year three continuation grant for different initiatives). All continuation applicants demonstrated progress in meeting their SFY 2007-2008 Community Health Grant evaluation goals. The intent of the continuation grant funds was to maintain the increased access to care supported by their initial community health grant award made in either SFY 2007-2008 (year two grantees) or SFY 2006-2007 awards (year three grantees).

The 42 organizations that received new project funds are summarized in Appendix B. Receipt of these funds is expected to improve access to health care for over 50,000 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 Anson, Ashe, Bladen, Caswell, Chatham, Chowan, Cleveland, Craven, Cumberland, Duplin, Durham, Franklin, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Henderson, Hertford, Hyde, Johnston, Lenoir, McDowell, Mitchell, Montgomery, Nash, New Hanover, Pender, Robeson, Rockingham, Sampson, Vance, Watauga, and Wilson counties;
- Expansion of behavioral and mental health services in Caldwell County;

- Expansion of pharmaceutical services to the uninsured and medically-indigent in Alamance, Ashe, Guilford, Vance, and Wilson counties; and
- Expansion of dental services to the uninsured and medically indigent in Cabarrus, Caswell, Cleveland, Cumberland, Edgecombe, Gaston, Henderson, Iredell, Randolph, and Vance counties.

The \$6 million in funds awarded in SFY 2008-2009 will positively impact the care provided to the uninsured and medically indigent residents of North Carolina. However, because the majority of these funds (\$4 million) were one-time monies, this limited the development of new access programs and necessitated a focus on infrastructure and technical needs of safety net providers. If all new project applications could have been funded, it is estimated that an additional 34,000 persons could have received improved access to health care this year. Core primary care, pharmaceutical, and dental services would have been provided in an additional 32 counties across the state.

Continued support and funding, especially recurring funding, for the Community Health Grant program will strengthen North Carolina's health care safety net and begin the process of ensuring that all of the state's over 1.5 million uninsured residents have access to an affordable and appropriate medical care home.

**Appendix A**  
**SFY 2008-2009 Community Health Center CONTINUATION Grant Recipients by County**

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Alamance County</b>			
Alamance County Health Department	HD	\$66,085	Maintain access to mental health and substance abuse services for maternity patients
<b>Bertie County</b>			
Bertie County Rural Health Association	FQHC	\$21,700	Maintain expanded access to care for diabetic patients
<b>Bladen County</b>			
Bladen Medical Associates	RHC	\$41,694	Continue the Medical Access Plan (MAP) program.
<b>Caldwell County</b>			
Helping Hands Clinic, Lenoir	Free Clinic	\$73,000	Continue access to mental health services
West Caldwell Health Council	RHC	\$12,314	Continue health education/counseling services
<b>Dare County</b>			
Dare County Health Department	HD	\$10,628	Maintain access to Ob/Gyn services for uninsured patients
<b>Davidson County</b>			
Davidson Medical Ministries Clinic	Free Clinic	\$70,000	Continue expanded hours of operation
<b>Franklin County</b>			
Wake Health Services	FQHC	\$11,000	Support operations of new medical clinic
<b>Gaston County</b>			
Gaston Family Health Services	FQHC	\$149,790	Maintain access to behavioral, mental health services, and adult dental services
<b>Halifax County</b>			
Halifax Regional Medical Center	Hospital	\$19,250	Maintain AIDS/HIV case management services
<b>Haywood County</b>			
Good Samaritan Clinic	Free Clinic	\$25,000	Maintain access to mental health services for the uninsured

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Henderson County</b>			
Blue Ridge Community Health Services	FQHC	\$55,000	Maintain access to behavioral health services for the uninsured
Henderson County Free Medical Clinic	Free Clinic	\$40,271	Maintain case management services for the uninsured
Pardee Memorial Hospital Foundation	Hospital	\$23,760	Continue the Medical Access Plan (MAP) program.
<b>Iredell County</b>			
Diakonos	Free Clinic	\$33,000	Continue expanded access to care for homeless patients
Health Reach Community Clinic	Free Clinic	\$20,254	Maintain access to dental and pharmacy services
<b>Martin County</b>			
Martin Tyrell Washington Health District	HD	\$75,000	Continue expanded clinic hours
<b>Mecklenburg County</b>			
Charlotte Community Health Clinic	Free Clinic	\$29,400	Continue behavioral and mental health services
MedAssist of Mecklenburg	Free Pharmacy	\$75,000	Maintain expanded hours of service
Physicians Reach Out (Mecklenburg County Medical Society Foundation)	Free Clinic	\$35,000	Maintain case management services for the uninsured
<b>Northampton County</b>			
Rural Health Group	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain expanded access to mental health and behavioral health services
<b>Orange County</b>			
Orange County Health Department	HD	\$44,769	Maintain expanded access to primary care services
<b>Person County</b>			
Person Family Medical Center	FQHC	\$70,000	Support operations of new dental clinic
<b>Robeson County</b>			
Indian Health Care	Free Clinic	\$22,502	Maintain increased access to care

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Rowan County</b>			
Community Care Clinic of Rowan County	Free Clinic	\$14,000	Continue expanded hours of operation and case management services
<b>Rutherford County</b>			
Community Clinic of Rutherford County	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Maintain expanded hours of operation
<b>Sampson County</b>			
Tri-County Community Health Council	FQHC	\$75,000	Maintain access to dental services and primary care for uninsured patients
<b>Transylvania County</b>			
Transylvania County Health Department	HD	\$75,000	Maintain access to mental health services by serving as transitional agency
<b>Tyrell County</b>			
<i>See Martin Tyrell Washington Health District listed under Martin County</i>			
<b>Warren County</b>			
Warren County Free Clinic	Free Clinic	\$50,000	Maintain increased access to primary care
<b>Washington County</b>			
<i>See Martin Tyrell Washington Health District listed under Martin County</i>			
<b>Wayne County</b>			
WATCH Wayne Health Foundation	Free Clinic	\$72,548	Maintain operation of mobile unit to provide primary care services
Wayne Initiative for School Health	SBHC	\$50,000	Maintain expanded services at two high schools
<b>Wilkes County</b>			
Mountain View Medical Center	RHC	\$41,000	Continue the Medical Access Plan (MAP) program.

Abbreviations

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

**Appendix B**  
**SFY 2008-2009 Community Health Center NEW PROJECT Grant Recipients by County**

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Alamance County</b>			
Piedmont Health Services	FQHC	\$75,000	Add pharmacy services at clinic
<b>Anson County</b>			
Anson Regional Medical Services	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand primary care access through efficiencies from generator and electronic medical records
<b>Ashe County</b>			
Ashe County Free Medical Clinic	Free Clinic	\$40,000	Expand primary care and pharmacy access by hiring Patient Care Coordinator
Ashe Memorial Hospital	RHC	\$47,408	Implement ORHCC's Medical Access Plan at their rural health clinic (Mountain Family Care Center)
<b>Avery County</b>			
<i>See Blue Ridge Regional Medical Center listed under Mitchell County.</i>			
<i>See Community Care Clinic Watauga County listed under Watauga County.</i>			
<b>Beaufort County</b>			
<i>See Engelhard Medical Center listed under Hyde County.</i>			
<b>Bertie County</b>			
<i>See Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center listed under Hertford County</i>			
<b>Bladen County</b>			
Bladen County Hospital	Hospital	\$65,588	Open new clinic in White Lake
<b>Brunswick County</b>			
<i>See New Hanover Community Health Center listed under New Hanover County.</i>			
<i>See Wilmington Health Access for Teens listed under New Hanover County.</i>			
<b>Buncombe County</b>			
<i>See Blue Ridge Community Health Services listed under Henderson County</i>			

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Cabarrus County</b>			
Southern Piedmont Community Care Plan	CCNC Network	\$75,000	Add dental services
<b>Caldwell County</b>			
Helping Hands Clinic, Lenoir	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Increase clinic hours
West Caldwell Health Council	RHC	\$25,000	Fund mental health services
<b>Carteret County</b>			
<i>See Vecinos listed under Craven County</i>			
<b>Caswell County</b>			
Caswell Family Medical Center	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand primary care access through efficiency from digitizing old records
Person Family Medical Center	FQHC	\$63,136	Increase access by adding dental operatory and x-ray equipment
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			
<b>Chatham County</b>			
Chatham County Health Department	HD	\$22,516	Expand services to OB patients with new equipment
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			
<b>Cleveland County</b>			
Cleveland County Health Department	HD	\$208,890	Expand dental services through replacement/addition of equipment and improve patient access by adding an elevator
<b>Chowan County</b>			
Albemarle Hospital Foundation	Hospital	\$64,157	Expand primary care access by adding exam rooms
<b>Craven County</b>			
Vecinos	Other	\$50,520	Start farmworker-focused clinic
<b>Cumberland County</b>			
Stedman Wade Health Services	FQHC	\$225,000	Increase primary care through efficiencies from better computers and updated dental equipment

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Dare County</b>			
<i>See Engelhard Medical Center listed under Hyde County.</i>			
<b>Duplin County</b>			
Duplin Medical Associates	RHC	\$23,491	Expand primary care access by repairing and expanding patient parking
<i>See Pender County Health Department listed under Pender County</i>			
<b>Durham County</b>			
Lincoln Community Health Center	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand primary care access by workspace update
<b>Edgecombe County</b>			
NC Dental Society	Other	\$75,000	Outfit and staff mobile dental clinics
<i>See Carolina Family Health Centers listed under Wilson County</i>			
<b>Franklin County</b>			
Wake Health Services	FQHC	\$150,000	Fund construction of new clinic site
<b>Gaston County</b>			
<i>See Gaston Family Services listed under Iredell County</i>			
<b>Gates County</b>			
<i>See Albemarle Hospital Foundation listed under Chowan County.</i>			
<i>See Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center listed under Hertford County</i>			
<b>Greene County</b>			
Greene County Health Care	FQHC	\$147,660	Maintain and expand access to care with new roof, generator and electrical repairs

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Guilford County</b>			
Guilford County Health Department	HD	\$150,000	Equip satellite community health department in southeast Greensboro
HealthServe Community Health Clinic	Hospital	\$86,613	Expand access to pharmacy services with automation system and software
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			
<b>Halifax County</b>			
Rural Health Group	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand access at existing clinic by adding exam rooms
<b>Harnett County</b>			
Tri County Community Health Council	FQHC	\$225,000	Expand services by hiring provider and funding construction of permanent clinic site
<b>Henderson County</b>			
Blue Ridge Community Health Services	FQHC	\$225,000	Open two new school based health centers and expand dental access by adding operatories
Pardee Memorial Hospital Foundation	Hospital	\$38,823	Implement ORHCC's Medical Access Plan
<b>Hertford County</b>			
Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center	FQHC	\$75,000	Expand HIV outreach services
<b>Hyde County</b>			
Engelhard Medical Center	RHC	\$53,322	Expand primary care access through outfit of new building
<b>Iredell County</b>			
Gaston Family Health Services	FQHC	\$217,520	Expand dental services by hiring a second dentist and assistant and improve access with electronic dental records and conversion to digital x-rays
<b>Johnston County</b>			
Benson Area Medical Center	RHC	\$65,712	Expand primary care access through efficiency from electronic medical records

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>McDowell County</b>			
Reggie Killough's Christ Team Inc	Free Clinic	\$75,000	Start free medical clinic
<i>See Blue Ridge Regional Medical Center listed under Mitchell County.</i>			
<b>Mitchell County</b>			
Blue Ridge Regional Medical Center	Hospital	\$37,200	Implement ORHCC's Medical Access Plan at their clinic
<b>Montgomery County</b>			
FirstHealth of the Carolinas	H	\$75,000	Implement diabetes management program
<b>Nash County</b>			
<i>See Carolina Family Health Centers listed under Wilson County</i>			
<b>New Hanover County</b>			
New Hanover Community Health Center	FQHC	\$225,000	Expand access to primary medical and dental care by replacing outdated medical, dental, and office equipment and making facility repairs
Wilmington Health Access for Teens	SBHC	\$150,000	Expand primary care access through efficiencies from electronic medical records
<b>Northampton County</b>			
<i>See Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center listed under Hertford County</i>			
<i>See Rural Health Group listed under Halifax County</i>			
<b>Onslow County</b>			
<i>See New Hanover Community Health Center listed under New Hanover County.</i>			
<b>Orange County</b>			
<i>See Piedmont Health Services listed under Alamance County</i>			
<b>Pamlico County</b>			
<i>See Vecinos listed under Craven County</i>			

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Project Overview</b>
<b>Pender County</b>			
Pender County Health Department	HD	\$75,000	Implement program targeting farmworkers
<i>See New Hanover Community Health Center listed under New Hanover County.</i>			
<i>See Wilmington Health Access for Teens listed under New Hanover County.</i>			
<b>Perquimans County</b>			
<i>See Albemarle Hospital Foundation listed under Chowan County.</i>			
<b>Polk County</b>			
<i>See Blue Ridge Community Health Services listed under Henderson County</i>			
<b>Randolph County</b>			
MERCE	FQHC	\$149,862	Expand access to dental services by adding and up-fitting dental operatories and offices
<b>Richmond County</b>			
<i>See First Health of the Carolinas listed under Montgomery County</i>			
<b>Robeson County</b>			
Robeson County Health Department	HD	\$38,145	Update ob/gyn and laboratory equipment and add monitoring for AII rooms
<b>Rockingham County</b>			
Morehead Memorial Hospital / Student Health Centers	SBHC	\$36,686	Increase access by adding staff
<b>Sampson County</b>			
Sampson Regional Medical Center	Hospital	\$150,000	Expand access to care by replacing the clinic's outdated x-ray equipment
<i>See Duplin Medical Associates listed under Duplin County</i>			
<b>Transylvania County</b>			
<i>See Blue Ridge Community Health Services listed under Henderson County</i>			

Grantee Name	Type	Funding	Project Overview
<b>Tyrrell County</b>			
<i>See Engelhard Medical Center listed under Hyde County.</i>			
<b>Vance County</b>			
Rural Health Group	FQHC	\$150,000	Upfit exam rooms, dental operatories, pharmacy, administrative space at new clinic
<b>Warren County</b>			
<i>See Rural Health Group listed under Vance County</i>			
<b>Washington County</b>			
<i>See Martin Tyrell Washington Health District listed under Martin County</i>			
<b>Watauga County</b>			
Community Care Clinic Watauga County	Free Clinic	\$71,800	Expand primary care access with new medical equipment
<b>Wilson County</b>			
Carolina Family Health Centers	FQHC	\$158,986	Expand primary care access by adding exam rooms, making facility repairs, replacing the roof, and expanding patient parking
<b>Yancey County</b>			
<i>See Blue Ridge Regional Medical Center listed under Mitchell County.</i>			

Abbreviations

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