

NORTH CAROLINA



GlaxoSmithKline
FOUNDATION

*2017 Child Health
Recognition Awards*



ncgskfoundation.org

Child Health Recognition Awards

Introduction


Public health professionals deal with childhood health issues: fighting asthma, boosting immunizations, providing better access to dental care, coaching women through healthier pregnancies, combating lead poisoning and confronting obesity with better nutrition and food choices.

This year's North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Awards program shows how public health professionals embrace and confront new challenges, and how they change with the times.

Our 2017 nominees span the state—representing 25 counties and state government. They highlight new issues such as:

- "Escape the Vapes," an educational campaign that addresses the alarming increase in the use of e-cigarettes among middle and high school students in Cleveland County.
- "Think Before You Ink," which educates Macon County students about the dangers of using tattoo artists operating without proper health permits.
- The JustTEENs Clinic established by the Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services to offer private, confidential, friendly, free or low-cost services for teen health needs. In addition to physicals, immunizations, pregnancy tests and infection screenings, the clinic also offers counseling services.

Since 1994, the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Child Health Recognition Awards program has recognized excellence and innovation in child health care, and this year's nominees are carrying on a proud tradition of developing creative, innovative and effective approaches in the field of public health. We are pleased to recognize these outstanding public health professionals and applaud their success!



The information presented in this booklet was provided by the nominators and reflects their views. We appreciate their participation sharing the work of others that create innovative programs.

2017 Child Health Recognition Awards

Winners of the 2017 Child Health Recognition Awards

(Click on names for individual write-ups)

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Parent Intervention Training

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Public Health Staff

Debbie Biggerstaff

Innovative Approaches Coordinator
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JoAnn Douglas

Immunization Outreach Leader
Wake County Human Services

Marietta Fort, RN

Public Health Nurse III, CHERRN
Orange County Health Department

Kristina Henderson, RN

Public Health Nurse II-Immunization/CD/TB and
HCIC Organizer
Henderson County Department of Public Health

Doris Hogan, REHS

Program Specialist
Forsyth County Department of Public Health

Christy Klaus, REHS

Lead Program Coordinator
Wake County Environmental Services

Tiffany Minton, RN

CC4C Case Manager
Appalachian District Health Department
126 Poplar Grove Connector

Judy Southern, MPH, RN

Nursing Director/Program Manager
Guilford County Department of Health and Human
Services
JustTEENS Program

Maryssa Sadler

Teen and Youth Adult Educator Advocate
Cumberland County Department of Health
Teen Clinic

Cheryl Williams, RN

Public Health Nurse III, CHERRN
Hoke County Health Department

Individual

Liz Cochran

Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator
Jackson County Department of Public Health

Sarcanda Green, RN

MESH Coordinator
Wilkes County Health Department

Ainsley Johnson, RN

Public Health Nurse II, CHERRN
Harnett County Health Department

Stephanie Perry Miller, RN

Child Health & CC4C Supervisor
Lenoir County Health Department

Rachel Mooneyham

Bilingual Maternal Child Health Educator
Forsyth County Health Department

Lifetime

Rebekah Hermann (retired)

Orange County Health Department

Elizabeth Krzysztoforska, DDS

Alamance County Health Department

Charles Philbeck

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

Local Health Department Award

The Local Health Department Recognition Award recognizes local health departments that have developed an innovative program producing measurable, sustainable outcomes.

2017 Local Health Department Award Winners:

Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services

Substance Treatment And Rehabilitation Program (STAR)

Gaston, NC
704-853-5139

In the United States, an infant is born with signs of drug withdrawal every hour. The impact of maternal drug use causes a wide range of short- and long-term effects like low birth weight, congenital anomalies and growth and behavioral problems. To combat this, the Gaston County Department of Health & Human Services launched the Substance Treatment and Rehabilitation Program (STAR) in February 2016 to provide drug treatment and supportive counseling to pregnant women. STAR has seen positive outcomes within its first year, not only among the women and children served by the program, but also through the agency's convening of stakeholders and partners around this issue. In addition, other counties in North Carolina are replicating STAR. This program is a shining example of how innovation and collaboration can drive substantial and sustainable change in a community, and make a tremendous difference in the lives of women and their babies.



Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services

JustTEENS Clinic

High Point, NC
336-641-3712

Focused specifically on teens, the JustTEENS clinic offers private, confidential, friendly, free or low-cost services set up to support teen needs. In addition to physicals, immunizations, pregnancy tests and infection screenings, the clinic also offers counseling services.



The clinic, using evidence-based practices, reported seeing 926 unduplicated teens in the first year, up from 225 at the Wendover site the prior year. The clinic's success and grant funding allowed a new clinic to open in May 2017 in an area where the highest teen pregnancy rate occurs. The JustTEENS initiative has been so successful because of the diligent work by the public health staff as they offer services where they are needed and in a teen friendly environment.

Madison County Health Department

Madison Substance Awareness Coalition

Marshall, NC
828-649-3531

Like many communities, Madison County has seen an increase in substance abuse among teens and adults ranging from tobacco use to prescription drugs to illegal street drugs. In 2014, the Madison County Health Department used a state grant to form the Madison Substance Awareness Coalition (MSAC). In less than three years, MSAC has successfully implemented both environmental and individual strategies to help raise awareness around substance related issues. By engaging youth through educational classes, assemblies, community events and student led projects, MSAC continues to spread the word about the dangers of prescription medication and other substances impacting the community. The coalition has earned a reputation for taking action to reduce youth substance use and by extension, reaching the adults in the students' lives, as well.



Local Health Department Nominees

Local Health Department Nominees:

AppHealthCare

Innovative Approaches Initiative

Boone, NC
828-264-4995

Some youth and young adults have special health needs—for instance, autism or trauma often associated with being placed in foster care—that are not easily met by standard public health care services. The Innovative Approaches Initiative at AppHealthCare, supported by the N.C. Division of Public Health, Children & Youth Branch, has helped to create an Inclusive Young Adult Group program, which serves as a social and peer mentor group to young adults ages 16-21 with special health care needs. The initiative is a collaboration that has focused on two grassroots community coalitions. One is the Transition Collaborative, comprised of 22 agency representatives and parents who meet on a monthly basis to strengthen systems of care for children and youth with special health care needs through their transitions to adulthood. The other is the Hub for Autism and Neurodiversity, comprised of 13 stakeholders and parents of children with special health care needs.

Catawba County Public Health

WIC Dental Partnership Program

Hickory, NC
828-695-5887

Many more families in Catawba County now have a true dental home, thanks to a partnership formed in January 2017 between the Catawba County Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) program and the Catawba Family Dentistry (CFD) program. The goal is to increase the number of women, infants and children who establish a dental home and receive regular care. To make the appointment process easier, a staff person from CFD is located within the WIC office and serves as a liaison for families. This collaboration has increased dental appointments and decreased no-show rates, and has created more access to dental care for women, infants and children in Catawba County.

Chatham County Public Health Department

Child Care Health Consultation Program

Pittsboro, NC
919-545-8322

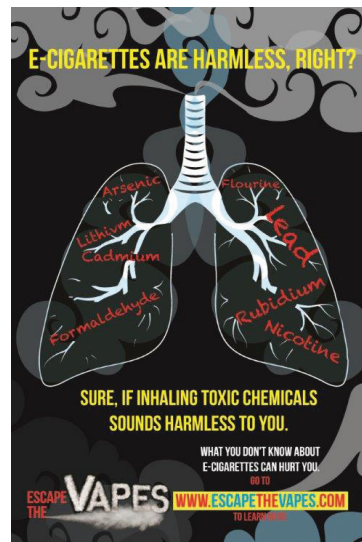
For the past three years, this Chatham County program has taken an innovative approach to increasing the rate of children ages 0-5 years who are fully up to date on their required immunizations. These efforts, which include training, tracking, gathering feedback and following up with child care facilities, have increased reporting among child care facilities from 62 percent to 100 percent and children in these facilities who are up to date on immunizations from 25 percent to 96 percent. Chatham also has ranked #1 in the state for the past three years in immunization rates among children ages 0 to 36 months. The increase in immunization rates over the past three years speaks to the effectiveness of the collaborative effort and technical assistance provided by the program, which can be replicated at other health departments.

Cleveland County Public Health Center

Escape the Vapes Program

Shelby, NC
980-484-5200

"Escape the Vapes" is a new way to address the alarming increase in the use of e-cigarettes among middle and high school students in Cleveland County, thanks to a partnership of the Cleveland County Public Health Center, the school system and other community partners. The educational campaign, developed by a youth council formed of students from each of the county's four high schools, was funded with a grant and aimed at raising awareness about the potential dangers associated with e-cigarette use in both the general adult community as well as the student population. The campaign included a website (EscapeTheVapes.com), social media messages, a billboard, posters and public service announcements. Following implementation of this campaign, Cleveland County saw a significant decrease in the prevalence of e-cigarette use among its youth.



Local Health Department Nominees

Cumberland County Health Department **Child Health Clinic**

Fayetteville, NC
910-433-3816

The Cumberland County Health Department's Child Health Clinic has demonstrated a unique multi-faceted approach to improving the health of patients and families. The health department follows the American Academy of Pediatrics' "Bright Futures" guidelines that address prevention and health promotion for infants, children, adolescents and their families. This is achieved through partnerships with community groups that prioritize education and preventative medicine. During physical examinations in the clinic, staff members care for sick children while also focusing on three major areas of mental health, nutrition and tobacco cessation.

Forsyth County Health Department **BeHealthy School Kids**

Winston-Salem, NC
336-703-3217

BeHealthy School Kids (BSK) is a comprehensive nutrition education program that promotes physical activity for pre-schoolers through 5th grade students in the public school system. Using a science-based curriculum called "OrganWise Guys" and USDA's MyPlate, students were taught how to be healthy from the inside out by bringing the body to life through fun organ characters and colorful posters about fruits and vegetables. BSK reaches about 7,200 students. With results of about a 62-percent increase of knowledge among kindergarteners at one school and similar success rates at the remaining schools, BSK is making strides against obesity in Forsyth County.



Graham County Department of *Public Health*

Child Health Program
Robbinsville, NC
828-479-7900

Asthma is one of the most chronic diseases in children and has proven to be a leading cause of children missing school in Graham County. The Graham County Department of Public Health Child Health Program is coordinating and implementing the Asthma Coalition for Graham County. The coalition includes a partnership of health department staff, school nurses, parents, a mid-level provider and Regional Asthma Disease Management staff. In its first year, the coalition has touched the lives of many children, improving their health and contributing to better attendance and success in school.



Greene County Department of Public Health **Families First Greene County**

Snow Hill, NC
252-747-8183

Families First Greene County is a collaborative community-based program that coordinates resources for children across multiple agencies. Greene County Health Department formed this collaborative to improve the health outcomes of young children and pregnant women because healthy children lead to healthy families. Many safety tips are provided on a wide range of issues, including fireworks, infant cribs, car seats, bicycle helmets, medication, heatstroke prevention, as well as general safety practices in the home, around the neighborhood and at school. Program efforts include media outreach, enhanced clinical services, distribution of infant formula, safety seats and child backpacks to promote healthy habits and environments for children.

Local Health Department Nominees

Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services

Project Access Dental

High Point, NC
336-641-7750

In Guilford County, as in many counties across the state, staff encounter children who have no insurance, no Medicaid and no money to pay for dental care. Many have never been to a dentist, and endure pain and infection from decayed teeth. Some suffer malnutrition because they can't properly chew. Project Access Dental (PAD) is a grant-funded program of the School Health Unit, created to help children in need of dental care treatment. Any public school student who has a restorative dental need, is not insured and whose family



is unable to pay for care is eligible to apply for PAD funds. Children of families who apply and qualify for PAD receive dental care in health department dental clinics.

Henderson County Department of Public Health

Henderson County Immunization Coalition

Hendersonville, NC
828-692-4223

The Henderson County Immunization Coalition was formed in 2014 in response to declining immunization rates and increasing diseases that can be prevented with vaccines. As a grassroots effort, the organization's mission has been to promote a partnership within pediatric and family practices by eliminating barriers, sharing resources and collaborating to stop the spread of vaccine preventable disease. The group organizers have written newsletters and organized presentations to physician groups, child care providers and civic organizations. It also has organized promotional efforts for National Infant Immunization Week. These efforts have paid off—Henderson County now has some of the highest immunization rates seen in over a decade.

Henderson County Department of Public Health

Youth Tobacco Prevention Advocacy Project

Hendersonville, NC
828-692-4223

Here's one way to educate youth about the dangers of tobacco use: Involve them in a project to collect data and then persuade the Board of Health to pass a resolution requesting policy change at the state level! That's what happened in Henderson County, where the Health Department created a unique collaboration to collect and evaluate information about how retailers and the tobacco industry market nicotine products to youth. Students conducted store audits to document and assess tobacco advertisements and placement of tobacco products, especially popular products like e-cigarettes. Students assisted health department staff in presenting their findings to the Board of Health and School Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) and asked for support for repealing state tobacco preemption rules. The Board of Health signed a resolution and SHAC provided a letter of support, which were forwarded to advocates at the state level.

Henderson County Department of Public Health

WIC Program

Hendersonville, NC
828-692-4223

Obesity and lack of nutrition from food insecurity are both threats to healthy mental and physical development in children. Through the strengthening and expansion of partnerships, the Henderson County Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) program office has implemented a three-pronged food assistance and nutrition education program through hands-on education. Several community gardens have been established at schools, child care centers and housing developments with the use of grants, interns and volunteers. One garden is at the WIC clinic, which helps staff provide hands-on gardening education, healthy recipes and samples, and fresh fruits and vegetables during WIC appointments, serving more than 2,100 families annually. The ultimate goal is to grow children with fewer health problems while decreasing their risk of becoming obese as they are taught about healthy eating habits.

Local Health Department Nominees

Macon County Public Health

Think Before You Ink Program

Franklin, NC
828-349-2081

In April 2016, Jennifer Garrett, Macon County Public Health's director of nursing, learned that a student was tattooing fellow students in his bedroom. Concerned about hygienic practices and the potential for blood borne pathogen exposure, she and colleague Jonathan Fouts, an environmental health specialist, worked with state health officials to offer free hepatitis B and C and HIV testing to individuals who had been tattooed by this tattoo artist operating without a permit. Taking this a step further, they developed and launched a program called "Think Before You Ink," aimed at educating Macon County students about the dangers of unpermitted body art. Their work has led to proposed legislation that will protect the health of North Carolina children and could potentially save lives.

Mecklenburg County Public Health

Pediatric Dental Clinic

Charlotte, NC
980-314-9064

In Mecklenburg, an urban county of more than 1 million, a crescent-shaped area of poverty and low educational attainment exists around the center city of Charlotte. Compared to other areas of the county, residents who live in these areas tend to have higher rates of chronic disease and death. Mecklenburg County Public Health has targeted these public health priority areas for improvements in health behaviors and health outcomes. In 2015, one priority was to increase tobacco cessation interventions—specifically those impacting children—in targeted health department clinics. The first focus was the Pediatric Dental Clinic, which serves children 17 years and younger, and has 7,000 client visits per year. The second focus is the Women, Infants and Children's Clinic, which is the largest WIC program in the state with 22,000 annual client visits. Both clinic efforts encourage and empower parents who use tobacco to cut back or quit, resulting in healthier home environments for children through reduced exposure to secondhand smoke, reduced triggers for asthma, improved parental health and tobacco-free role modeling to youth.

New Hanover County Health Department

Parent Intervention Training

Wilmington, NC
910-798-6690

For parents of young children with emotional and behavioral problems, just getting a child to school without tears can be a tremendous challenge. Sometimes, the children become physically violent. The New Hanover County Health Department is providing a treatment that is making a true difference in the lives of these families and children. The department offers a program called Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), a parent training intervention that teaches caregivers specific behavior management techniques for use with children. Parents have reported high satisfaction, including one who noted that her daughter is "doing great this school year. We have not had one single day of crying this school year when she's dropped off, unlike last year, when she cried every single day." Another parent called PCIT "an invaluable tool in my toolbox."

Toe River Health District

Mitchell Yancey Healthy Families

Spruce Pine, NC
828-765-2239

The Toe River Health District (TRHD) actively led the community in implementing Mitchell Yancey Healthy Families, an evidence-based intensive home visiting program designed to meet the specific needs of families and young children. The program targets overburdened families at risk for child abuse and neglect, and is designed to work with families who may have histories of trauma, intimate partner violence, mental health concerns and/or substance abuse issues. The program supports families and children in seeking well-child or prenatal care, establishing a medical home, following prescribed well-child and immunization schedules, and seeking income maintenance support programs, nutrition and physical activity education, housing and transportation. This creative, collaborative effort strengthens parent-child relationships, and promotes overall healthy childhood growth and development.

Public Health Staff Award & Nominees

The Public Health Staff Recognition Award is given to an individual who is either a full-time or part-time employee or retiree of a local health department. It recognizes outstanding community service in preventive health activities.

2017 Public Health Staff Award Winner:

Debbie Biggerstaff

Innovative Approaches Coordinator

Cabarrus Health Alliance
Kannapolis, NC
704-920-1000

Called “the quiet wonder woman” by her colleagues, Debbie Biggerstaff encompasses the qualities every health department wants and needs: she is loyal, hardworking and passionate about changing the lives of youth in Cabarrus County. Her leadership of the Innovative Approaches program has given a voice to families with children with special health care needs and has brought needed community partners to the table to listen. Among her many accomplishments, she developed the annual Family Resource CAFÉ conference to educate families about resources, services and navigation; led the Mental Health Navigator training; provided education to families and Emergency First Responders regarding the tools and resources needed for families with children with special health care needs, and developed the Latino Parent Advisory Council. Because she is so well respected in her field, she was asked to write guidelines for other Innovative Approaches Projects for replication across the state.

Public Health Staff Nominees:

JoAnn Douglas

Immunization Outreach Leader

Wake County Human Services
Raleigh, NC
919-250-4518

JoAnn Douglas has worked diligently for many years to improve childhood immunization coverage rates in Wake County. She leads a team that works to ensure that children receive all age-appropriate immunizations. She has served as an outstanding partner to the N.C. Immunization Program, N.C. Immunization Coalition and Wake County pediatric and family providers. She strives to identify new, more effective methods for tracking children for immunizations and is known for thinking outside the box. Wake County’s children and families are lucky to have her working to protect them from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Marietta Fort, RN

Public Health Nurse III, CHERRN

Orange County Health Department

Hillsborough, NC
919-245-2400

Ask anyone in this department and they will tell you that Marietta Fort embodies public health. As a child health enhanced role nurse with a career at Orange County Health Department, she educated, coached, counseled and treated clients seeking services. She retired but continues to support local programs by providing well child checks and immunizations, teaching diabetes management and nutrition classes, and supporting newer nurses in their clinical care delivery. Orange County children and families are thankful for and have benefited from her support, patience and knowledge.



Public Health Staff Nominees

Kristina Henderson, RN

Public Health Nurse II-Immunization/CD/TB and HCIC Organizer

Henderson County Department of Public Health
Hendersonville, NC
828-694-6018

Kristina Henderson has been a registered nurse for more than 10 years, spending the last four years in public health. As an immunization nurse, she is passionate about conveying to parents how important vaccines are and addressing their concerns with empathy and evidence-based research. With the help of the communicable disease team in Public Health, she helped to create the Henderson County Immunization Coalition, inviting all county pediatric providers, school nurses and community health nurses to join. The purpose of the coalition was to create a unified effort by county providers to address parental concerns and misinformation about vaccines. Her efforts have helped keep local providers updated on upcoming immunization educational opportunities and vaccine recommendations, and have provided resources including immunization tracking tools and incentive programs.

Doris Hogan, REHS

Program Specialist

Forsyth County Department of Public Health
Winston-Salem, NC
336-703-3133

Doris Hogan pours her heart and soul into the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program of Forsyth County, working hard every day and also on Saturdays as needed to make sure that all children affected by lead are surrounded with the resources to lower their lead levels and counter any damage lead may have already caused. She has completed or assisted in hundreds of investigations, and has worked tirelessly to educate businesses, homeowners, families and the court system about the damage lead poisoning causes. Doris has created the CLPPP webpage and brochures, handouts, display boards and posters that educate the public on the risks of lead hazards in the community. She also makes sure CLPPP is actively talking to doctor's offices, hospital systems and other organizations to ensure that they are up-to-date on all current lead rules, testing requirements and processes. She is improving the health outcomes of children and their families in Forsyth County.

Christy Klaus, REHS

Lead Program Coordinator

Wake County Environmental Services
Raleigh, NC
919-723-6610

Christy Klaus is a tireless and compassionate champion for children's environmental health. She performs her investigations of homes of young children with elevated blood lead levels with meticulous detail. She advises families on healthy homes best practices and works hard to find the source of a child's lead exposure. She educates parents using straightforward, simple language and humor. She has performed detective work in finding new sources of non-paint lead exposures such as spices, ceremonial powders, herbal remedies and artificial turf, and has contacted federal authorities to alert them to the need to better screen these consumer items for lead. She has elevated awareness of the lead exposure risk that imported spices can pose to families and young children who regularly include spices in meal preparation. Christy demonstrates a true passion for protecting children's health.

Tiffany Minton, RN

CC4C Case Manager

Appalachian District Health Department
Boone, NC
828-264-4995

Known for her kind heart and big smile, Tiffany Minton is one of the hardest working nurses in Watauga County. She is someone who sets a goal and will not give up until the problem is solved. She is known throughout the community as "the linker" because she connects families with a medical home, transportation, food and shelter. She serves more than 80 families with children who have special needs, are exposed to toxic stress conditions, are in foster care or in the neonatal intensive care unit—in other words, children at high risk for poor health outcomes. She is an amazing listener who strives to ensure the safety and overall health of any child/family she comes in contact with, often putting others' needs ahead of her own. She is a strong advocate for these Appalachian children and works tirelessly on their behalf.

Public Health Staff Nominees

Judy Southern, MPH, RN

Nursing Director/Program Manager

JustTEENS, Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services
Greensboro, NC
336-641-3712

Preventing teen pregnancy can have lifelong impacts on young people, giving them a chance to complete school and enter the workforce before making the decision to have a baby. In 2015, Guilford County took a big step toward teen success when program manager Judy Southern secured grant funding to expand staff in the newly formed JustTEENS Clinic. There, teens find a place that is private, confidential, friendly, and can meet their needs free or at low cost. Teens make their own appointments and can come alone if desired. In addition to physicals, immunizations, pregnancy tests and infection screenings, the clinic also offers counseling services. The clinic's success is due to Judy Southern and her team, who are the champions for reducing teen pregnancy in Guilford County.

Maryssa Sadler

Teen and Youth Adult Educator Advocate

Teen Clinic, Cumberland County Department of Health
Fayetteville, NC
910-433-3764

Maryssa has been in her current role for just a year, but has accomplished and implemented multiple evidence-based programs addressing teen pregnancy prevention in the Teen Clinic, Juvenile Detention Center and other youth organizations in the county. Maryssa's work ethic is proven by the 3,000 students, including specialized populations, who have been reached through the N.C. Youth Connected Initiative.

Cheryl Williams, RN

Public Health Nurse III, CHERRN

Hoke County Health Department
Raeford, NC
910-875-3717

Cheryl Williams began her public health career in 2006 as a Child Health Program coordinator. She enjoyed working with children so much that she became a Child Health Enhanced Role Nurse in 2014. In her effort to help the children of Hoke County and to promote childhood literacy, Cheryl collaborated with Hoke County Smart Start Partnership for Children to obtain children's books, which she gives to clinic patients during visits.



Individual Award & Nominees

The Individual Recognition Award is given to an individual who made an outstanding contribution to improving children's health services through a single effort.

2017 Individual Award Winner:

Sarcanda Green, RN

MESH Coordinator

Wilkes County Health Department
Wilkesboro, NC
336-903-7668

Sarcanda Green has been with the Wilkes County Health Department for 25 years, and is a key factor in helping generations of students to be healthier and more academically successful. Her attention to detail makes her shine as Mobile Expanded School Health (MESH) coordinator, a program that serves about 1,100 students during the school year with sick and preventive care provided at school. MESH offers a wide range of services, including treatment of injuries, immunizations, labs, health education and counseling, health screenings, pregnancy tests and prescriptions. Sarcanda coordinates sports physicals so students have an opportunity to play sports. Because the students trust her, Sarcanda serves as a lifeline to students who need health care. She is a true example of a dedicated public health nurse.



Sarcanda Green and the MESH Bus

Individual Nominees:

Liz Cochran

Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator

Jackson County Department of Public Health
Sylva, NC
828-587-8292

Liz Cochran is known as a passionate, driven, and selfless health educator who works with the youth population in Jackson County. She is charged with the difficult task of teaching sex education to pre-teens, and took on the challenge by engaging with her students and sharing valuable resources with them. Seeing a need for a stronger effort, she developed an additional sex education program called Smart Teens, which teaches youth about healthy relationships, sexual consent and how to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. Thanks to Liz's hard work, Smart Teens has now been adopted by the high schools in Jackson County and incorporated into the 9th grade curriculum. She serves on numerous health-related advisory councils, task forces and committees, including chair of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Advisory Council.

Ainsley Johnson, RN

Public Health Nurse II, CHERRN

Harnett County Health Department
Lillington, NC
910-893-7550, ext. 6251

Ainsley is dedicated to improving the overall health of children in Harnett County through efforts to increase the childhood immunization rates. She has developed outreach strategies to parents, caregivers and pediatricians' offices to ensure children are vaccinated. Through community outreach programs, she has reached many children who otherwise may have gone unvaccinated. Her most recent strategy as a Child Health Enhanced Role Nurse has been to provide well child physicals and immunizations at a newly established satellite office, making it more convenient for residents who live in the southern part of the county. She provides immunization flyers and vaccine information as part of the Community Back to School Campaign, helping to ensure that new kindergartners and older children receive vaccine information along with donated school supplies.

Individual Award Nominees

Stephanie Perry Miller, RN

Child Health & CC4C Supervisor

Lenoir County Health Department
Kinston, NC
252-526-4200, ext. 4271

With Stephanie's hard work and dedication to the children of Lenoir County, the Child Health Program and Clinic took off in full swing on July 1, 2015. Stephanie is well known and linked to multiple agencies in Lenoir County because she knows that coordination is key to overseeing any gaps in care that may occur. Stephanie has the passion, initiative and ambition to advocate for the children of Lenoir County, and without her determination and vision, the Child Health Clinic would not be where it is today. In addition to her busy job, Stephanie went on to complete her Child Health Enhanced Role training in December of 2015.

Rachel Mooneyham

Bilingual Maternal Child Health Educator

Forsyth County Health Department
Winston-Salem, NC
336-703-3194

Rachel Mooneyham is a quiet rising star at the Forsyth County Health Department. As a bilingual maternal child health educator, she wears many hats, including the Cribs for Kids coordinator, Baby Safety Class facilitator, Childbirth Educator, Child Safety Seat technician and resident expert and family planning educator. Although she has been with the department for only a year and a half, she has made tremendous strides in the promotion of infant and child health and safety and the support of women and mothers in reaching their reproductive health goals. She is a shining example of a stellar health educator.



Lifetime Award & Nominees

The Lifetime Achievement Award is given to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to improving children's health services through a series of achievements over a period of time.

2017 Lifetime Award Winner:

Elizabeth Krzysztoforska, DDS

Dental Director

Alamance County Health Department
Children's Dental Health Center
Burlington, NC
336-570-6415

Dr. Krzysztoforska, also known as Dr. K, has spent her professional career giving back in appreciation for the opportunities given her when she moved to the United States from Poland. She established the Children's Dental Health Center, a self-sustaining public health dental clinic, to promote preventive care for children. At the center, Dr. K. has focused on three areas of evidence-based preventive strategies: dental sealants, fluoride varnishes and nutritional counseling. She works with children as young as a year old, with a heavy emphasis on parent education and fluoride applications. She believes in establishing a long-term dental home for public health patients, and now children who were served by the clinic are bringing their own children in for dental care! Dr. K. also is an adjunct faculty member at the UNC Dental School and has used the clinic to help mentor and train fourth-year dental students with rotations in the clinic, giving them valuable work experience in pediatric dentistry.

Lifetime Nominees:

Rebekah Hermann (retired)

Orange County Health Department
Hillsborough, NC

During her nearly 30-year career at the Orange County Health Department, Rebekah (Beckie) Hermann tirelessly cared for multiple generations of children. Beckie advocated for the healthy lunch initiative, served on the adolescent parenting program board and represented child health programs across the community



when meeting with community partners to improve Orange County child health care. She continues to serve this population through faith-based organizations as a volunteer.

Charles Philbeck

Regional Immunization Consultant
DHHS/DPH/WCH/Immunization Program
Shelby, NC
704-480-5439

During his more than 45 years with the Division of Public Health's Immunization Program, Charles Philbeck has been dedicated to protecting North Carolina's children from vaccine preventable diseases. Over the years, Charles has been involved in guiding health professionals through disease outbreaks in our state, including rubella, pertussis and measles. He is considered an expert in immunization law and conducts vaccine assessment visits in schools and child care centers throughout western North Carolina to ensure children are properly immunized, while working closely with school nurses and child care operators so they understand how to protect the children they serve.

2017 Selection Committee

Dorothy Cilenti, DrPH, MPH, MSW

Interim Health Director
Orange County Health Department
Clinical Associate Professor
Department of Maternal and Child Health
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

Brittany Dobbins, MPH, CHES

Assistant Health Director
Caldwell County Health Department

Teresa Ellen, RN, MPH

Health Director
Wilson County Health Department

Angela L. Lee, MPH

Health Director
Onslow County Health Department

Gerri L. Mattson, MD, MSPH, FAAP

Wake Health and Human Services
Child Health Clinic
Volunteer Pediatrician

Maribeth Wooten, MPH, PT

Special Assistant to State Health Director
Division of Public Health,
N.C. Department of Health
and Human Services



The North Carolina Public Health Association (NCPHA) oversees the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation Child Health Recognition Awards program. The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation appreciates the hard work of the NCPHA, and we are grateful to the selection committee for its time and diligence in considering all nominations.

Thank you to everyone involved.

NORTH CAROLINA



GlaxoSmithKline
FOUNDATION

2017 Child Health Recognition Awards

Contact Us

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For more information visit:
NCGSKFOUNDATION.org

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The information presented in this booklet was provided by the nominators and reflects their views. We appreciate their participation sharing the work of others that create innovative programs.