

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Rural Health and Community Care 311 Ashe Ave Raleigh, NC 27606

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2014 Profile

www.ncdhhs.gov/orhcc/

## **Overview**

The Medication Assistance Program (MAP) is a safety net for uninsured, low-income individuals in the state. It provides access to free prescription drugs available through pharmaceutical manufacturers to patients who cannot afford them. This service, currently offered through 122 sites – rural health centers, federally qualified health centers and community and faith based organizations – uses special software called Medication Access and Review Program (MARP), created in partnership through private foundations and supported by the Office. This software matches patients' eligibility with available free medications. The Office provides training and technical support to users of this software, as well as assisting prescription assistance coordinators in each site to develop best practices in their medication assistance programs.

## **Importance**

MAP has become a significant safety net for uninsured, low-income individuals in our state. Since the program began in 2003, it has accessed \$1,100,171,847 in free drugs for patients who could not afford them.

## **Cost, Savings and Monitoring**

- SFY 2014 Budget \$3,550,368 (grants)
- Patients served: 43, 862
- Medications received: 204,490
- Value of Medications received: \$150,801,856
- Average annual cost per patient: \$80 (each patient averages about 5 prescription drugs each month)
- FTE's supported for Medication Assistance grantees: 62.94

Technical Assistance: Supporting safety net	
infrastructure in vulnerable communities:	
Citizen Help	92 encounters
Software Support	1071 encounters
Program Development/Grant Support	567 encounters





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