



# North Carolina Community Health Grants

Phone: 919.527.6440 • Fax: 919-733-8300

## 2015 Profile

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/orh>

### Overview

The General Assembly appropriates approximately \$5.4 million in recurring funds for Community Health Grants. The purpose of the funds is fourfold:

- To increase access to preventive and primary care services for medically vulnerable patients in existing or new primary care locations;
- To establish primary care safety net services in counties where no such services exist;
- To create new services or augment existing primary care and preventive medical services provided;
- To increase capacity necessary to serve low income patients by enhancing or replacing facilities, equipment, or technologies.

These funds, by statute, support safety-net organizations such as 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, and school-based health centers that provide care to underserved populations throughout the state. Grant funds may be used for both capital improvements and direct patient care. In SFY 2015, grants supported 69.3 health care professionals to provide patient care.

### Importance

Continued support and recurring funding for the Community Health Grant program has strengthened North Carolina's health care safety net infrastructure to ensure that all of the state's low income and vulnerable residents (Uninsured, Underinsured, Medicare and Medicaid) have access to affordable and appropriate high quality primary care.

It is a conservative estimate that the State's primary care safety net system serves 1.1 million vulnerable residences.

### Cost, Savings and Monitoring

In SFY 2015, funds were awarded in 62 counties, 35 of those counties are in the most rural areas of our state:<sup>1</sup>

• Federally Qualified Health Centers	12	\$1,447,428
• Free Clinics	19	\$2,271,327
• Health Departments	4	\$420,711
• Hospitals	8	\$675,925
• School Based Health Centers	4	\$420,881
• Non-Profit (Other)	1	\$150,000

Based on grantee's performance:

- 50% of the grant funded sites have improved clinical outcomes of diabetes patients through reduced A1c levels, patient education, and early diagnosis
- 59% of grant funded sites have improved clinical outcomes of hypertensive patients through early diagnosis and improved blood pressure levels of 140/90 and 130/80
- 60% of grant funded sites have provided smoking cessation to improve the clinical outcomes of their patients who smoke

#### **Technical Assistance: Supporting safety net infrastructure in vulnerable communities:**

*Program Development / Grant Support*  
110 activities

#### **Community Health Grants Funding Sources for SFY 2014-2015:**

**Federal - \$22,119**  
**State - \$5,437,169**

<sup>1</sup> Based on NC IOM Rural Health Task Force definition of NC Rural Counties



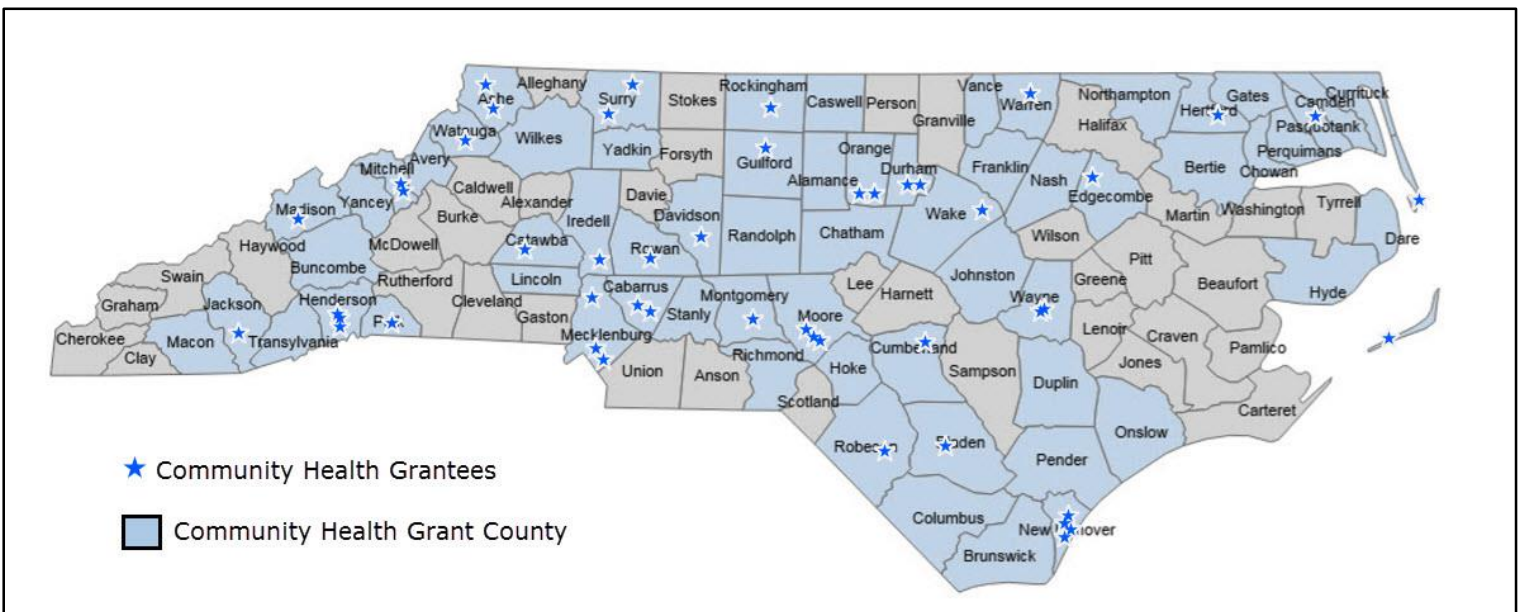
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## Program Coverage

- Supports primary care in 62 counties
- 157,425 low-income patient (Medicaid, Medicare, underinsured, uninsured) encounters
- In addition to other funds, ORH had an average annual cost of \$34 per patient per visit
- 87,143 patients served at an average annual cost of \$61.80



### **If you have further questions, please contact:**

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