# Status Report on the Community Health Grant Program

## Session Law 2023-134, Section 9B.2.(e)




## Report to the

## Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

## by

## North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

## November 10, 2026

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Heath (ORH) respectfully submits this Legislative Report to satisfy SL 2023-134, Section 9B.2.(e) on the Community Health Grant Program.

Session Law 2023-134 directed ORH to report the following information on the Community Health Grant Program:

- The identity and a brief description of each grantee and each program or service offered by the grantee.
- The amount of funding awarded to each grantee.
- The number of individuals served by each grantee, and for the individuals served, the types of services provided to each.
- Any other information requested by ORH as necessary for evaluating the success of the Community Health Grant Program.

The Community Health Grant Program was established and funded by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2005 (S.L. 2005-276) to increase access to preventive and primary care services for uninsured or medically indigent patients. Since the Community Health Grant Program's inception, ORH works collaboratively with stakeholders and representatives of key safety net providers to obtain input used by ORH to guide its administration of the Community Health Grant Program. In Session Law 2017-57, the Community Health Grant Program funding expanded, the program criteria were defined, and the Primary Care Advisory Committee was formalized. ORH submitted a Legislative Report to satisfy Session Law 2017-57 and Session Law 2021-180 on the establishment of a Primary Care Advisory Committee. ORH works directly with the Primary Care Advisory Committee members, which includes the North Carolina Community Health Center Association, the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, the North Carolina Association of Free and Charitable Clinics, the North Carolina School-Based Health Alliance, and other organizations representative of eligible grant recipients.

As defined in Session Law, the maximum awards are $150,000 per year. The Program award period aligns with the State Fiscal Year (July 1st through June 30th). The competitive grant process begins with an annual Request for Applications (RFA). The SFY 2026 RFA was released and posted to the ORH website on October 21, 2024. The Primary Care Advisory Committee advises the Community Health Grant Program process. The Community Health Grant team held two RFA technical assistance workshops on November 7, 2024, and November 18, 2024, to assist applicants with effectively applying for Community Health Grant funding.

Applications were submitted via an electronic application process and were due on December 20, 2024. Eligible applications are organized within the six Medicaid regions and scored by a team of reviewers, with awards given to the highest scoring applications from each Medicaid region. This process ensures that funding distribution is equitable across the State. The demand for the Community Health Grant Program is substantial. On average, the program funding supports awards to approximately 42% of eligible applicants. In SFY26, the Community Health Grant program received 89 applications for funding and 37 of those applicants were awarded.

In compliance with the Session Law noted above, the following information and tables are respectfully submitted. Awards are separated into three one-year budget cycles. New awards were generated by the competitive application cycle that opened on October 21, 2024, and closed on December 20, 2024. The new awards are documented in Table 1. Continuation awards that began Year 2 of their three-year award are documented in Table 2, and continuation awards that began Year 3 of their three-year award are documented in Table 3. In the tables below, the Total Patients Served data is reported by each grantee to ORH. Grantee organizations may report patient served data in one of the following categories:

- Sub-Populations: Data from a specific group of patients supported by the grant (i.e., dental patients, maternal care patients, behavioral health, etc.).
- One-Site Population: Data reported will include only those patients seen at a specific practice site location supported by the grant.
- Multi-Sites Population: Data reported will include patients from more than one specific practice site location supported by the grant.

The purpose of each grantee defining its "patient served populations" as noted above is to provide additional information to explain the variations between the number of patients served across grantees. Multi-Sites Population locations tend to have higher numbers of patients served due to the data being reported from more than one specific practice site location. In addition to variations attributed to the grantee definition of patient population, grantee outcomes can vary due to a multitude of factors, including but not limited to practice operations, primary care provider challenges, operational expenses, location of service delivery sites, hours of operation, and the complexity of care provided to high-need populations. School-Based Health Care Centers historically have lower number of patients served due to their patient population, location of service delivery, and travel.

## Table 1

**SFY 2026 Year 1 Grant Awards**
**(New Competitive Awards)**

| Organization Name (Year 1 grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Alliance Medical Ministry | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 2,216 | One-Site Population |
| 2. Campbell University Community Care Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 495 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 3. Cape Fear Clinic, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,711 | One-Site Population |
| 4. Care Ring | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 6,731 | One-Site Population |

| Organization Name (Year 1 grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5. Clay County Health Department | Health Department | Primary Care | $45,548 | 689 | One-Site Population |
| 6. Community Care Center of Forsyth County, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,794 | One-Site Population |
| 7. Community Care Clinic of Dare | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $69,712 | 1,802 | Sub-Population |
| 8. Community Care Clinic of Franklin, Inc. | Rural Health Center | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 547 | One-Site Population |
| 9. Community Health Services of Union County | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $40,158 | 891 | One-Site Population |
| 10. Free Clinic of Rockingham County, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 102 | Sub-Population |
| 11. Health & Hunger Coalition, Inc. (previously community care Clinic) | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $69,712 | 532 | Sub-Population |
| 12. Iredell Health System (Iredell Memorial Hospital) | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 78 | Sub-Population |
| 13. Matthews Free Medical Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $101,700 | 1,513 | One-Site Population |
| 14. Metropolitan Community Health Services, Inc. | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 162 | One-Site Population |
| 15. Moore Free and Charitable Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,652 | One-Site Population |
| 16. Mountain Area Health Education Center, Inc. (MAHEC) | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $149,240 | 47,265 | Multi-Sites Population |

| Organization Name (Year 1 grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17. Mountain Community Health Partnership, Incorporated | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 11,004 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 18. Mt. Olive Family Medicine Center, Inc. | Rural Health Center | Primary Care | $150,000 | 12,758 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 19. New Hanover Regional Medical Center Foundation dba Novant Health New Hanover Regional Medical Center Foundation | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $44,712 | 3,456 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 20. Person Family Medical Center, Inc. | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 2,150 | One-Site Population |
| 21. Piedmont Health Services, Inc | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $44,712 | 4,046 | One-Site Population |
| 22. Pitt County Care Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $44,712 | 202 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 23. Project 658 dba Hope Community Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,266 | One-Site Population |
| 24. Robeson County Health Department | Health Department | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 1,108 | One-Site Population |
| 25. Rural Health Group | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 2,895 | One-Site Population |
| 26. Samaritan Health Center | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 729 | One-Site Population |
| 27. Scotland Memorial Hospital, Inc. | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 30,999 | Multi-Sites Population |

| Organization Name (Year 1 grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28. Shelter Health Services, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $52,854 | 741 | One-Site Population |
| 29. Shepherd's Care Medical Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 220 | One-Site Population |
| 30. Surry Medical Ministries Foundation, Inc. | School-Based and School-Linked Health Center | School-Based Health Care | $150,000 | 321 | One-Site Population |
| 31. The Broad Street Clinic Foundation | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $149,136 | 229 | One-Site Population |
| 32. The Center for Rural Health Innovation | School-Based and School-Linked Health Center | School-Based Health Care | $150,000 | 235 | One-Site Population |
| 33. The Mental Health Fund, Inc. dba Catawba Valley Healthcare | Other, Non-Profit Community Organization | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,017 | One-Site Population |
| 34. Tri-County Community Health Council, Inc. dba CommWell Health | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 21,462 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 35. UNC Rockingham Health Care, Inc dba Rockingham County Student Health Centers | School-Based and School-Linked Health Center | School-Based Health Care | $125,000 | 348 | Sub-Population |
| 36. Vecinos, Inc. | Rural Health Center | Primary Care | $149,924 | 1,360 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 37. Wilkes County Health Department | Health Department | School-Based Health Care | $150,000 | 407 | Sub-Population |
| **Totals for Year 1 Grantees:** | | | **$4,768,272.00** | **165,133** | |

**Table 2**
**SFY 2026 Year 2 Continuation Grant Awards**
**(Continuation awards that are beginning Year 2 of their three-year award)**

| Organization Name (Year 2 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Albemarle Hospital Foundation | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 2,623 | One-Site Population |
| 2. Blue Ridge Community Health Services, Inc. | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 35,44 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 3. Care Ring, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 502 | Sub-Population |
| 4. Community Care Clinic of Dare | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,559 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 5. Community Care Clinic of Rowan County | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $135,607 | 1,010 | One-Site Population |
| 6. Compassion Health Care, Inc | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,662 | One-Site Population |
| 7. Cook Community Clinic, formerly Lake Norman Community Health Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $89,456 | 1,905 | One-Site Population |
| 8. County of Duplin, Duplin County Health Services | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 5,854 | One-Site Population |
| 9. County of Wake, Wake County Human Services | Health Department | Primary Care, Dental Care | $150,000 | 906 | Sub-Population |
| 10. County of Wilkes, Wilkes County Health Department | Health Department | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $107,892 | 2,925 | One-Site Population |
| 11. Duke University Health System, Inc. | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,152 | One-Site Population |
| 12. East Carolina University ECU Physicians | School-Based and School-Linked Health Center | School Based Health Care | $150,000 | 34 | One-Site Population |
| 13. FirstHealth of the Carolinas, Inc. | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Dental Care | $90,300 | 5,932 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 14. Forsyth Medical Center Foundation dba Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center Foundation | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 6,077 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 15. Free Clinic of Rockingham County, Inc. | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 59 | Sub-Population |

| Organization Name (Year 2 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16. Grace Clinic of Yadkin Valley | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 750 | One-Site Population |
| 17. Graham County Department of Public Health | Health Department | Primary Care | $150,000 | 811 | One-Site Population |
| 18. HealthReach Community Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $149,961 | 323 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 19. Helping Hands Clinic, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 607 | One-Site Population |
| 20. High Country Community Health | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Dental Care | $113,524 | 2,062 | One-Site Population |
| 21. Kinston Community Health | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $149,830 | 7,476 | One-Site Population |
| 22. Macon County Public Health Department | Health Department | School-Based Health Care | $71,416 | 62 | One-Site Population |
| 23. Mountain Community Health Partnership Incorporated | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 11,004 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 24. NeighborHealth Center, Inc. | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 8,258 | One-Site Population |
| 25. Pender Alliance for Total Health (PATH) dba Pender Alliance for Teen Health | School Based and School- Linked Health Center | School-Based Health, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 220 | One-Site Population |
| 26. Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County dba Cabarrus Health Alliance | Health Department | Dental Care | $150,000 | 4,315 | One-Site Population |
| 27. RAO Community Health | Other, Non-Profit Community Organization | Primary Care | $150,000 | 411 | One-Site Population |

| Organization Name (Year 2 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28. Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center, Inc. | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care, School-Based Health Care | $71,416 | 186 | Sub-Population |
| 29. Robeson County Department of Public Health | Health Department | Primary Care, Maternal Health | $150,000 | 1,108 | One-Site Population |
| 30. School Health Alliance for Forsyth County | School Based and School-Linked Health Center | School Based Health | $150,000 | 1,632 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 31. Shepard's Care Medical Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $71,411 | 220 | One-Site Population |
| 32. The Care Clinic, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Dental Care | $131,116 | 615 | One-Site Population |
| 33. Tri-County Community Health Council dba CommWell Health | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 21,462 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 34. Urban Ministries of Wake County, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,020 | One-Site Population |
| 35. Western NC Community Health Services, Inc | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 536 | One-Site Population |
| | **Totals for Year 2 Grantees:** | | **$4,932,097** | **130,502** | |

**Table 3**

**SFY 2026 Year 3 Continuation Grant Awards**
**(Continuation awards that are beginning Year 3 of their three-year award).**

| Organization Name (Year 3 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Appalachian Regional Healthcare System | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 270 | One-Site Population |
| 2. Charlotte Community Health Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 7,236 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 3. Community Care Clinic of Franklin, Inc | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 547 | One-Site Population |

| Organization Name (Year 3 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4. Compassion Health Care, Inc | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 4,866 | One-Site Population |
| 5. County of Wilkes, Wilkes County Health Department | Health Department | Primary Care | $150,000 | 2,191 | One-Site Population |
| 6. FirstHealth Physician Group | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 2,099 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 7. Gateway Community Health Centers | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 1,840 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 8. Good Samaritan Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $90,000 | 1,784 | One-Site Population |
| 9. Hunger & Health Coalition, Inc. (previously Community Care Clinic) | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 532 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 10. Martin-Tyrrell-Washington District Health Department | Health Department | Primary Care, Dental Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 2,347 | Sub-Population |
| 11. Matthews Free Medical Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $147,683 | 1,513 | One-Site Population |
| 12. MERCI Clinic, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 269 | One-Site Population |
| 13. Mustard Seed Community Health | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 599 | One-Site Population |
| 14. NeighborHealth Center | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 8,258 | One-Site Population |
| 15. New Hanover Community Health Center dba MedNorth Health Center | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 9,025 | Multi-Sites Population |

| Organization Name (Year 3 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16. New Hope Clinic | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Dental Care | $150,000 | 459 | One-Site Population |
| 17. Novant Health New Hanover Regional Medical Center | Non-Profit, Hospital-Owned Primary Care Clinic | Primary Care | $150,000 | 82 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 18. Public Health Authority of Cabarrus County, d.b.a. Cabarrus Health Alliance | Health Department | Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 3,578 | Sub Population |
| 19. Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Dental Care | $150,000 | 990 | One-Site Population |
| 20. Robeson Health Care Corporation | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 15,298 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 21. Rural Health Group, Inc | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Primary Care | $150,000 | 3,896 | One-Site Population |
| 22. The C.W. Williams Community Health Center, Inc. | Free and Charitable Clinic | Maternal Care | $150,000 | 36 | Sub Population |
| 23. The Center for Rural Health Innovation | School Based and School-Linked Health Center | School-Based Health | $150,000 | 126 | One-Site Population |
| 24. The Mental Health Fund, Inc. dba Catawba Valley Healthcare | Other, Non-Profit Community Organization | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $150,000 | 4,654 | Multi-Sites Population |
| 25. The Shalom Project | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $ 150,000 | 712 | One-Site Population |
| 26. UNC Department of Family Medicine | Other, Non-Profit Community Organization | Primary Care | $ 149,588 | 525 | Sub Population |
| 27. UNC Rockingham Health Care, Inc. d.b.a. Rockingham County Student Health Centers | School Based and School-Linked Health Center | School Based Health | $ 150,000 | 2,226 | Sub Population |
| 28. Urban Ministries of Wake County | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care | $ 150,000 | 1,020 | One-Site Population |
| 29. Vecinos, Inc | Free and Charitable Clinic | Primary Care, Behavioral Health | $ 150,000 | 1,360 | One-Site Population |

| Organization Name (Year 3 Grantee) | Organization Type | Service Offered | Award Amount | Total Patients Served | Patient Served Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30. Wayne Initiative for School Health (WISH) | School Based and School-Linked Health Center | School Based Health | $ 150,000 | 2,066 | Sub Population |
| 31. Western NC Community Health Services, Inc. | Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (and FQHC look-alikes) | Behavioral Health | $ 150,000 | 536 | Sub Population |
| 32. Wilmington Health Access for Teens (WHAT) of Coastal Horizons Center, Inc. | School Based and School-Linked Health Center | School Based Health | $150,000 | 1,786 | Multi-Sites Population |
| | **Totals for Year 3 Grantees:** | | **$4,887,056** | **82,726** | |