Thank you to the Alliance Leadership Team for their continued dedication to the Chatham Health Alliance:

Jessica Mashburn, Immediate Past Chair  
Cecil Wilson, 2020 Chair  
Lara Kehle, 2020 Vice-chair/Access Subcommittee Co-chair

The Chatham Health Alliance Staff would like to thank all Alliance members for their commitment to the Alliance, its subcommittees, and the health of Chatham County residents.

Julie Wilkerson, Alliance Coordinator  
William Rowe, Alliance Implementation Specialist

Health Impact Priorities: Tracking Progress

Based on data from the 2018 Chatham County Community Assessment, the Chatham Health Alliance selected three Health Impact Priorities (HIP) to focus on from 2019-2021: Access to Comprehensive Health Services, Poverty, and Obesity. Alliance subcommittees targeting each HIP formed in 2019 to develop action plans and implement collaborative strategies. Updates on each subcommittee can be found on the following pages.
### Poverty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired Results</th>
<th>2019-2020 Progress</th>
<th>Key Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Chatham residents have access to gaining and retaining employment</td>
<td>All Chatham residents have access to affordable, quality educational opportunities</td>
<td>All Chatham residents are safe, healthy, and connected where they live, work, and play</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Subcommittee formed working groups focused on employment, education, and the neighborhood/built environment. Each working group has prioritized strategies to work on in 2020-2021.</td>
<td>Examples of current prioritized strategies include establishing a living wage initiative, supporting the formation of a youth development council, and creating a plan for Alliance outreach and advocacy activities.</td>
<td>The Poverty Subcommittee has co-led the NCCARE360 Working Group, focusing specifically on engaging community and social service organizations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019-2020 Percent in Poverty: 9.3% (2018) from 11.4% in 2017</td>
<td>One in four adults would like to expand their job opportunities by getting additional training</td>
<td>16.2% of adults cite medical costs as what causes the greatest financial stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate: 2.9% (Dec. 2019) from 3.2% in Dec. 2018</td>
<td>(Source: American Community Survey)</td>
<td>(Source: 2019 Community Survey)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Source: NCommerce.com)</td>
<td>5.5% of Chatham adults worry all or almost all of the time about having enough money to make ends meet</td>
<td>(Source: 2019 Community Survey)</td>
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</table>

### Obesity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired Results</th>
<th>2019-2020 Progress</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All people in Chatham lead active, healthy lives</td>
<td>All Chatham employers support healthy workforces</td>
<td></td>
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<td>The Obesity Subcommittee has working groups focused on physical activity and nutrition.</td>
<td>The Chatham Health Alliance’s Worksite Wellness Initiative is underway, and three worksites are currently enrolled.</td>
<td>The Pittsboro Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan included a health element focused on safe access to points of interest in Pittsboro, equity, and the improvement of the built environment to improve health outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 child care facilities improved in nutrition/physical activity practices as measured by their NAP SACC scores.</td>
<td>Fryerless Fridays take place every Friday at Chatham Hospital’s cafeteria.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obesity Rate</td>
<td>13% of adults eat at least 5 servings of fruits and vegetables a day</td>
<td>Three worksites enrolled in Worksite Wellness in January 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.8% Among adults in 2018</td>
<td>from 21% in 2014</td>
<td>(Source: 2018 &amp; 2014 Community Surveys)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Source: 2018 Community Survey)</td>
<td>(Source: 2018 YRBS)</td>
<td>from 1 in January 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.4% Among high school students in 2017</td>
<td>63% of adults are thinking about exercising more in the next month</td>
<td>(Source: 2019 Community Survey)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from 11.5% in 2014</td>
<td>(Source: 2019 Community Survey)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Emerging Issue: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are traumatic life events, such as abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction, that occur in childhood and can have long-term impacts on physical and mental health. The more ACEs a person experiences, the more at risk they are to experience certain health conditions, such as obesity, diabetes, depression, heart disease, substance abuse, and stroke.

One issue related to ACEs, the number of children in foster care, has increased steadily over the past 4 years in Chatham County, following state and national trends. Of the 205 children served by the Chatham County foster care program from March 2018 to February 2020, 63% were removed from their homes due to parent or caretaker serious substance abuse disorder.

Initiatives in Chatham Addressing ACEs

Chatham Action on Resilience (CARS)

CARS is an initiative in Chatham aimed at educating the community about ACEs and providing resources to build a resilient community through training and screening the documentary film Resilience. For more information on the CARS initiative, please visit: www.carsinitiative.com

Trauma-Informed Communities Project

Chatham was selected to participate in the Center for Child & Family Health's Trauma-informed Communities Project. This project includes a 9-month tailored training program to establish an integrated trauma-informed system of care for children. The collaborative team includes Cardinal Innovations, KidScope, Chatham County Court Programs, Chatham County Public Health Department, Chatham County Department of Social Services, and the Chatham Health Alliance. To learn more please visit: www.ccfhnc.org/resources/three-new-nc-counties-selected-for-trauma-informed-communities-project.

In Chatham County

14.4% of adults reported high levels of childhood stress

(Source: Chatham County Community Assessment, 2018)
New Initiatives

Maternity Care Center Coming to Chatham Hospital
Beginning in the fall 2020, labor and delivery services will return to Chatham Hospital in Siler City. The maternity care center will fill a void in Chatham, which has not had a provider of childbirth services since the birthing care unit at Chatham Hospital closed more than 20 years ago.

The maternity care center is truly a community effort, with UNC Family Medicine, Piedmont Health Services, the Chatham County Public Health Department, Department of Social Services, Chatham Health Alliance and many other community organizations and agencies teaming up to make the initiative a success. A new collaborative initiative co-led by these organizations called Equity for Moms and Babies Realized Across Chatham (EMBRACe) received a Cross-sector Innovation Initiative grant from the Public Health National Center for Innovations to ensure successful and equitable birth outcomes for women and babies in Chatham County through system and service alignment.

Tobacco-free Ordinances Take Effect
The Chatham County Board of Commissioners passed an ordinance effective January 2020 making all Chatham County government grounds tobacco free. In addition, the Town of Siler City’s new tobacco-free ordinance took effect in 2020 and includes 100% tobacco-free town parks. Learn more at chathamnc.org/tobaccofree.

Medicaid Transformation on Hold
In 2015, the North Carolina legislature passed House Bill 372, which put forth major changes to the state’s Medicaid program. These changes, known as Medicaid Transformation, were to include transitioning Medicaid’s fee-for-service model to managed care, where Medicaid enrollees choose from prepaid health plans offered by different private insurers.

Due to the lack of a state budget, Medicaid Transformation’s go-live date of February 1, 2020 has been postponed and no new date has been set. The Chatham Health Alliance and Chatham County Public Health Department continue to monitor this situation and share updates with the Chatham community as they become available.

In the meantime, the Chatham Health Alliance has organized discussions and trainings on NCCARE360, a statewide coordinated care network with the goal of facilitating referrals between medical providers, social service agencies, and community resources, like housing assistance and food pantries.
For more information about NCCARE360, visit nccare360.org. For current information on Medicaid Transformation, visit medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid-transformation.

Key County Stats
Population: 73,139 (2.3% increase from 2017 to 2018)
Source: American Community Survey

24% Percent of residents 65+ years old, compared to 16% statewide
Source: American Community Survey

33,013 Number of Housing Units
11% increase from 2013 to 2018
Source: American Community Survey

89% Percent of adults with health insurance
Source: 2018 Community Survey

Data Dashboards
Looking for more data on the Health Impact Priorities and other issues? Online data dashboards are now available that provide interactive and updated data from the Chatham County Community Assessment. Visit chathamtalks.org to view the dashboards, updates from the 2019 Chatham Community Cohort Survey and Health Equity Story Maps.