Leadership Team

Gayle Harris, MPH, RN  
Public Health Director  

Joanne Pierce, MA, MPH  
Deputy Public Health Director  

Eric Ireland, MPH, REHS  
Deputy Public Health Director  

Arlene Seña, MD, MPH  
Medical and Laboratory Director  

Mel Downey-Piper, MPH, CHES  
Director of Health Education & Community Transformation  

Michele Easterling, MPH, RD, LDN  
Nutrition Director  

James Harris Jr., MA, PhD  
Dental Director  

Marcia Johnson, MPA  
IT Administration Division Director  

Rosalyn McClain  
Senior Administrative Officer  

J. Christopher Salter, REHS  
Environmental Health Director  

Hattie Wood, RN, MSN, MHA  
Community Health and Nursing Director

Board of Health

James M. Miller, DVM  
Chairperson, Veterinarian Member  

F. Vincent Allison III, DDS  
Vice Chairperson, Dentist Member  

Brenda Howerton  
Durham County Board of County Commissioners Liaison Member  

Mary Braithwaite, MD  
Physician Member  

A. Spencer Curtis, MPA  
Public Member (Engineer Member)  

Stephen Dedrick, RPh, MS, ScD (hon)  
Pharmacist Member  

Arthur Ferguson, BS  
Public Member  

Mary Ann Fuchs, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN  
Registered Nurse Member  

Rosemary Jackson, MD, MPH  
Public Member  

Teme M. Levbarg, PhD, MSW  
Public Member  

Dale Stewart, OD  
Optometrist Member
Page 4 Health Director’s Message

It is my pleasure to share with you the 2016 annual report for the Durham County Department of Public Health. The Durham County Department of Public Health is responsible for creating and maintaining conditions that keep people healthy. The three core functions of public health are: assessment, assurance, and policy development. To accomplish these core functions the department must strive to provide ten essential services which are:

1. Monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. Diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.
4. Mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. Develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. Enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. Link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. Assure competent public and personal health care workforce.
9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. Research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Last year was exciting and memorable for many reasons; however, the pages of this report offer only a glimpse of what we have been able to accomplish with the support and input of our elected officials, board of health, community partners and Durham residents. We focused efforts assuring our community had access to needed services and information that keeps us healthy. We also directed our attention to examining underlying causes of health disparities bringing us new and potential cross-sector partnerships and initiatives surrounding other factors that influence health.

In this report you will find:
• Data and statistics about who we serve
• Types of programs and services we offer
• Our work across our partnership network to ignite deeper level conversations about racial equity
• Examples of collaboration to address chronic diseases
• Ways we protect the public through environmental health activities
• Our focus on access opportunities for those in our community with special needs
• Methods used to involve our youngest residents in making healthful food choices
• Our investment in public health staff development

Every day as I come to work, I am inspired by the words on the outside of our building. “Durham’s vitality is built upon the health of our residents and the capacity of our community to foster and enhance the wellbeing of every citizen.” Together we will continue efforts to contribute to Healthy Communities, Healthy People.

Gayle Harris, MPH, RN
Public Health Director

Page 5 Who We Serve

We are dedicated to improving the health of the communities we serve. Our healthcare staff are licensed or certified in their professions, assuring quality care for you and your family.

Approximately 300,952 people reside in Durham County, according to the 2015 United States Census Bureau population estimate. All services are provided without regard to religion, race, color, national origin, creed, disability, gender, or ability to pay. We serve an average of 110+ appointments per day.

Our programs and services are designed to accommodate infants to seniors. Most services are free, but some require a sliding scale fee. We accept most insurances, including Blue Cross Blue Shield, Aetna, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Our Mission

Working with Our Community to Prevent Disease, Promote Health, and Protect the Environment.

Our Vision

Healthy Durham, Join Us!
People, Partners, Places, Policy, Practice

FY July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016 Clients By Age

Ages 0-14: 1,450 clients
Ages 15-25: 2,880 clients
Ages 26-45: 5,486 clients
Ages 46+: 1,447 clients
Page 6 Programs and Services

Services:
- Birth Control
- Cervical Cancer Screenings
- Chronic Disease Self Management
- Communicable Disease Control
- County Jail Health
- Dental
- Diabetes Self Management
- Pregnancy Tests
- Family Planning
- Emergency Contraception
- Tuberculosis (TB) Control
- Immunizations (Vaccinations)
- Environmental Health Inspections
- Restaurant Complaints
- Rabies Prevention
- Health Education
- STD Testing & Treatment
- Mammograms & Breast Exams
- Pap Smears
- Nutrition Counseling & Therapy
- Refugee Health
- Prenatal Care
- Postpartum Examinations
- Webinars
- Youth Dental Cleanings & Extractions
- Youth On-site Dental Screenings

Programs:
- Autism Spectrum Disorders Dental Clinic
- Care Coordination for Children (CC4C)
- Diabetes Support Group
- DINE for Life in the Community
- Durham County Health Ministry Network
- Durham Diabetes Coalition
- FreshStart Smoking Cessation Program
- Healthy Futures Durham Schools
- Junior Iron Chef Durham
- Living Healthy with Diabetes
- Obstetrics Care Management (OBCM)
- Partnership for A Healthy Durham
- Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)
- School Health Program
- StayQuit Former Smoker Program
- Vital Records
- What’s the 411: Diabetes and Your Health

Page 7 By the Numbers

BY THE NUMBERS
Here is a snapshot of some of our work and the number of people we have reached through highlighted programs at the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoPH). To learn more about what we do, visit our website at dconc.gov/publichealth.

What is DCoPH’s impact?

- 6,746 immunizations provided
- 159 water samples
- 1,696 nutrition therapy sessions
- 1,922 syphilis tests performed
- 11,263 people reached through health clinics
- 2,581 people reached through dental clinics
- 63 grocery store tour attendees
- 27,966 Healthcare visits provided
- 596 swimming pool inspections
- 1,647 restaurant inspections completed

Our Charge
Working with our community to prevent disease, promote health, and protect the environment.
Approximately one hundred and fifty individuals representing community, public health, social services, faith and community-based organizations, university, law enforcement, education, transportation, housing, recreation, finance, state government, business, criminal and juvenile justice participated in Durham County Department of Public Health-sponsored racial equity training sessions. Through training, we received an introductory analysis of racism and its cultural and historical roots to begin the work of intentionally creating racially equitable organizations and systems.

From our collective learning, we now know that racial inequities are not random and have been created and sustained over time. Deeply racialized systems are costly and affect outcomes and life opportunities for all groups particularly in communities where there is concentrated poverty and communities of color. When racial equity is not explicitly brought into decision-making, racial inequities are likely to be perpetuated.

Our overarching goal is to increase success for all racial ethnicities and create dialogue to close the gap in Durham with an understanding that strategies must be directed based on the needs and voices of our community. We are on a journey to consciously integrate racial equity in decisions, including policies, practices, programs, and budgets. Join us!

150 Participants Completed the Racial Equity Training

40 DCoDPH Employees Have Completed the Racial Equity Training

1657 People Tested for Hepatitis C through the Health Education Division

Candice Givens, a Bridge Counselor for DCoDPH’s Frontlines of Communities in the United States (FOCUS) project, assists clients everyday who are living with Hepatitis C (HCV). She recognizes how the disease can affect their mental and physical abilities, so she strives to instill hope in her clients by helping them access the care they need.

“My clients often have issues with transportation, insurance, long waits before to get appointments, and dealing with the stigma of HCV,” states Candice. “I love helping link people with what they need to thrive. Sometimes it can be as simple as letting them know there are assistance programs that help pay for medications.

Many of Candace’s clients have said that without FOCUS, they would have had a hard time getting treatment for HCV. The FOCUS grant, supported by Gilead Sciences, is a collaborative project with the UNC Division of Infectious Diseases that increases testing for HIV and HCV while helping those who test positive get linked to care. Bridge Counselors provide education and support when patients find out the diagnosis and they also help with doctors’ visits. Counselors also refer clients to social services, mental health, and substance abuse agencies as needed.

About 3 to 4 million people are living with HCV in the United States, which can lead to liver disease and cancer. About half do not know they have HCV and many others have a hard time accessing treatment. Nearly 100 individuals with HCV have been linked to care with FOCUS.

This year we expanded our internal courageous conversations to include a wide range of partners representing multiple sectors to discuss racial equity in Durham County. As a unit each of these partners has a vested interest in developing a growing network, focused on the advancement of equity that moves us beyond the concentration of disparities.
Managing Mobile Food Units (MFUs), also known as food trucks, is a complex and daunting task. It involves keeping track of where they operate to using food from approved sources. Regulating food trucks can be more difficult than a brick and mortar operation.

Durham County holds permits for 125 MFUs, second only Mecklenburg County. No other county comes close. In an effort to help them run more efficient and safer our Environmental Health division held an informational forum. The forum was well received and provided guidance for more than 40 operators. Topics included: operator and commissary responsibilities, required equipment, and an array of NC Food Code questions.

“I think it was very beneficial” said Courtney Caley, owner/operator of Qspresso Cubanos, a Cuban and Latino infused cuisine catering and food truck operation. At the end of sessions, the operators left with a better understanding of just what Environmental Health staff have to deal with. They were also more confident and knowledgeable, thus safer food service providers. Many operators expressed that they now look forward to working with inspectors.

Charlitta Burruss, a Virginia native, moved to Durham nearly eight months ago to be closer to her son and grandson. Before moving to Durham, Burruss had a strong sense of community support, which she found helpful in managing her type 2 diabetes. Although she did not know anyone but family, Burruss heard about our Durham Diabetes Coalition diabetes support group at CAARE, Inc., and decided to attend. She quickly became a regular participant and formed new relationships.

The Durham Diabetes Coalition is a partnership with Duke University and DCoDPH to provide support to Durham County residents with type 2 diabetes. The Coalition also assists with helping people to avoid getting type 2 diabetes by providing health education, testing, and other prevention methods.

With the help of the weekly meetings and the education she received from our staff, she was able to lose weight and lower her A1C, a measure of her average blood sugar level. Burruss continues to attend the CAARE support groups most weeks and is doing great!
“By spending the necessary time to learn about each child, we can tailor the clinic to their individual needs, including taste, sound and touch sensitivities. We can turn off instruments that make too much noise or go into a room where the lights can be dimmed.”

A visit with the dentist can make many people anxious. This is especially true for children living with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). ASD impacts nearly 2% of children in North Carolina. Individuals with ASD typically have difficulty understanding verbal and nonverbal communication. Many become very frightened in new places with loud noises, like those heard at a dentist office.

DCoDPH’s Dental Division has addressed this issue by creating a quarterly clinic called Project Blue Bridge to assist the needs of children with ASD. The clinic was spearheaded by Mobile Dental Clinic Coordinator, Yolandas Alston. Alston participated in the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disorders (LEND) and Maternal Child Health (MCH) programs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, receiving training on how best to serve this population.

“Children on the ASD spectrum have a lot of sensory issues,” she said. “Our new clinic allows the dentist more time to talk with families and learn about each other. This open communication increases the likelihood of a more successful dental visit.

DCoDPH piloted Project Blue Bridge in April 2016. Because of the program’s success, the clinic will now be held on a quarterly basis.

During October, all third grade classes from Southwest Elementary traveled to the Durham Public School (DPS) Hub farm to learn about the ecology of plants and how these plants (fruits and vegetables) provide the body important vitamins and minerals for good health. Approximately 135 students, seven teachers and seven parents participated in the field trips.

Students spent the morning rotating through three hands-on activities including: Cooking from the Garden, Making a Salad, and Learning about the Fruit and Vegetable Food Groups. Collaborating with the Hub farm is one of the many strategies that the DCoDPH DINE team use to provide nutrition education in Durham County. The Durham’s Innovative Nutrition Education program, or DINE for short, is a school- and community-based nutrition education program targeting individuals and families in Durham who are eligible for the SNAP program (formally known as food stamps). Schools that have at least 50% free and reduced lunch participation qualify for DINE programming. DINE provided nutrition education classes, healthy taste tests or cooking demonstrations to 5,755 unduplicated students and 20,015 duplicated student contacts in 23 Durham Public Schools. As children have the opportunity to participate in growing, harvesting, and preparing their food, they become more open to trying new foods and eating healthier foods like fruits and vegetables that are often lacking in their current diets.
### Page 14 Our Partners

- 21st Century Community Learning Center
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Pediatric Nutrition Practice
- Alliance Behavioral Health Care
- American Diabetes Association
- American Heart Association
- Antisoch Baptist Church
- Ark Enrollment and Resource Center for Youth and Families
- Autism Society of North Carolina
- Beacon Light Church
- BuyQuick
- Boys & Girls Club
- CARE, Inc.
- Campus Crossing Apartments
- Carolina Outreach Services
- Carrboro
- Child Care Services Associations
- Criminal Justice Advisory Council
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- Destiny Cuts and Styles
- Duke Health
- Duke University
- Durham Beauty Academy
- Durham Center for Senior Life
- Durham Cooperative Extension
- Durham County Department of Social Services
- Durham County Detention Center
- Durham Directors
- Durham County Gun Safety Team
- Durham County Head Start
- Durham County Public Library
- Durham County Sheriff’s Office
- Durham Crisis Response Center
- Durham Head Start
- Durham Faith Communities on HIV/AIDS
- Durham Farmers’ Markets
- Durham Farm & Food Network
- Durham Hub Farm
- Durham Health Ministry
- Durham Housing Authority
- Durham Local Interagency Coordinating Council
- Durham’s Partnership for Children + Durham Police Department
- Durham Public Schools
- Durham Technical Community College
- Durham Together for Resilient Youth (TRY)
- East Durham Children’s Initiative
- Ebenezer Baptist Church
- EFNEP Advisory Council
- El Centro Hispano
- End Hunger Durham
- Express Mart
- EZ Minimart
- Faith Academy
- Food Lion
- Food Policy Council
- Forestview Heights Neighborhood Improvement Association
- Flashlight Barber Shop
- Friendly Barber Shop
- Global Scholars Academy
- Grocers on Wheels
- Healthy Families Durham
- Healthy Start Academy
- HIV/STD Advisory Council
- Imperial Barber Shop
- Interfaith Food Shelf
- Invictus
- James E. Shepard Sertoma Club
- John Avery Boys and Girls Club
- Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- Laurel Oaks Summer Camp
- Level 51 Apartments
- Lillian’s Beauty Salon
- Lincoln Community Health Center
- Little Faith Daycare Center
- Little People
- Little River Community Center
- Little Wonders
- Living Healthy Coalition
- Local Access to Coordinated Healthcare (LATCH)
- Los Primos Grocery
- Mayor’s Committee for Persons with Disabilities
- Mayor’s Poverty Reduction Initiative
- Health Task Force
- Meredith College
- M&M Minimart
- Mount Vernon Baptist Church
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- Nice Trim Barber Shop
- North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
- North Carolina Central University
- North Carolina Colorectal Cancer Roundtable Steering Committee
- Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee
- North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service – Durham County Center
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- North Carolina Diabetes Advisory Council
- North Carolina Public Health Association
- North Carolina Public Health Foundation
- North Carolina SNAP-Led Advisory Committee
- North Carolina State More in My Basket
- North Carolinians Against Gun Violence
- Northern Piedmont Community Care
- Northgate Mall
- Original Styles Barber Shop
- Project Access of Durham County
- Project Safe Neighborhoods
- Radio One Raleigh
- Recovery Innovations
- Religious Coalition for Non-Violent Durham
- Russell Memorial CME Church
- Safe Kids of Durham County
- Samuel & Son Barber Shop
- Save-A-Lot Grocery
- School Nutrition Services (SNS)
- SEEDS
- Senior Community Care
- Senior PharmAssist
- Shepherd’s House Church
- Signature Cuts
- Sincerely Yours Salon
- St. James Baptist Church
- St. Joseph AME Church
- Stokendale Historic Community Association
- The Art Institute of Raleigh-Durham
- The Governor Morehead School
- Thorpe’s Barber Shop
- Threshold Clubhouse
- Triangle Christian Center
- Triangle Empowerment, Inc.
- Triangle J Council on Aging
- UNC ASCEND Program
- University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- Urban Ministries of Durham
- Visions Counseling Studio
- Voyager Academy
- Wee Wisdom
- West Durham Baptist Church
- White Rock Baptist Church
- Wytha Balance Yoga
- The YWCA of the Triangle Area
- **KEY**
  - Collaboration for Services
  - Organization with Representation

---

### Page 15 Inside DCoDPH

Customer satisfaction is our top priority and it begins at home. DCoDPH offers a variety of enrichment and team-building activities for our internal customers. The inaugural Leaders Academy class graduated in September where they endured six months of leadership development curriculum. Participants hailed from various divisions within DCoDPH, and learned how each of those divisions work together to maintain a healthy Durham.

Since 2012 DCoDPH leadership team has participated in a Habitat for Humanity home build as part of a City-County joint initiative. This year they helped to build the home at 1106 Spruce Street. “We look forward to this every year as we are excited to help families achieve homeownership,” said Gayle Harris, Director, DCoDPH. “We always discuss the social determinants of health, and at the core, is to ensure that our residents have adequate housing.”
DCoDPH utilized all 200+ employees in a Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise in October for a large scale outbreak simulation. The exercise tested DCoDPH’s plan to provide medication in event of a biological chemical release, in this case, anthrax. It was a timed exercise that helped us learn how many people we can assist in heightened situations.

There were 11,263 patients seen in FY July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016. Note: These figures are for DCoDPH patients, excluding dental.
Page 18 Highlights & Statistics

Note: These figures are for DCoDPH dental patients. There were 2,581 dental patients seen in FY July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016.

Gender

- 52% Female
- 48% Male

Age

- 0-4 years: 13.8%
- 5-14 years: 58.7%
- 15-24 years: 25.9%
- 25-34 years: 1.1%
- 35-44 years: 0.4%

Race

- Hispanic/Latino: 84%
- Not Hispanic/Latino: 16%
- Asian: 2.6%
- Black or African American: 11.3%
- Other: 0.1%
- White: 82.6%
- Unknown: 3.5%

Payor Source

- Medicaid: 49%
- Self Pay: 51%

Funding Sources

- County Funding: $15,480,721 (73%)
- Grants/Awards: $3,415,823 (16%)
- Medicaid/Medicare: $3,415,823 (16%)
- Fees for Service: $1,913,986 (9%)
- Medicaid: $15,480,721 (73%)
- Medicare: $3,415,823 (16%)
- Self Pay: $390,267 (2%)

Fiscal Expenditures

- Personnel Costs: $13,170,802
- Operating: $8,029,995