



HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON: Daniel Roberts, Sandhills Medical Foundation (803-669-3461)

MEETING: The Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the DSS Training Room in Chesterfield.

GOAL: The mission of this Committee is to research and address issues in the public health system in the county. The vision for the 2015 countywide community engagement assessment is to use the results to facilitate the best possible healthcare, preventive, and behavioral outcomes in Chesterfield County. Priorities affirmed in 2017 include increasing physical activity and healthy nutrition, obesity and chronic disease prevention, and increasing health equity.

ACTIVITIES: The all-volunteer Committee has published a countywide community engagement assessment. Over 1300 surveys were collected around the county beginning in 2014. A focus group was held in McBee in the Fall, 2014 and a countywide Forces of Change meeting was held in July, 2015. The data and reports were presented at the 11/2015 CCCC meeting and are being used by the CCCC and its member agencies to identify needs, write grants, and other activities to improve the quality of life in Chesterfield County. Results were presented also to seven town councils and County Council. The committee is working currently to partner with industries and other employers to increase the opportunities for wellness through the workplace. Plans are to expand this effort to the faith based community.

In 2017, the Wellness Directory was developed and published to increase the awareness of services and locations in the county for families to be physically active and access information about healthy nutrition. It is a subset and expansion of the general services Resource Directory maintained by the CCCC. Committee members continue to distribute the Wellness Directory through library branches, their offices, employee breakrooms, beauty/barber shops, etc.

Over several years, the CCCC Health Committee has implemented and evaluated several projects to increase physical activity and healthy nutrition which are the key to reducing many chronic diseases that plague county citizens. Throughout 2008, the JumpStart to Good Health project worked with children, child care centers, and the community at large to prevent childhood obesity. Significant improvements were made on several measures and the Committee hopes to replicate the project. This Committee produced a local conference - A Taste of Health: A Community Conference about Living Better in September, 2009. The need for this conference was recognized through the Committee's prior work with Voices of the Community (2002) and Grocery Gap (2008). Wise Walkers, a partnership between the Committee and Long Middle School in 2011, provided pedometers for a walking challenge among the 6-8 graders in PE. Due to the effective program with the students, 25 teachers participated and competed against each other. After members were instrumental in creation of the regional Northeastern Rural Health Network, the CCCC Health Committee took a hiatus between 2011 and 2014.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES INCLUDE:

CareSouth Carolina, Inc.

Chesterfield/Marlboro Headstart

Chesterfield Family YMCA

Pee Dee Health Region, SC DHEC

Pee Dee Healthy Start

Mercy In Me Free Medical Clinic

McLeod Health - Cheraw

Northeastern Rural Health Network

Pageland Seventh Day Adventist Church & other faith based organizations

Sandhills Medical Foundation

Several hospice organizations

The Link

Welvista

Working Well & other state level entities