

STATE OF THE COUNTY'S HEALTH REPORT

2006



Prepared by Pitt County Health Department in collaboration with Pitt Partners for Health



Throughout 2006 Pitt County continued to focus on health improvement initiatives within the seven priority areas identified during the 2003 Community Health Assessment process. The priority areas include: Access To Care, Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke, Nutrition and Physical Activity, Infant Mortality, STDs/HIV/AIDS, and Older Adult Health. Additionally, Substance Abuse was added as a priority in 2005. This report will highlight the activities undertaken in 2006 to address each of these priority areas. To access the *2003 Community Health Assessment* that provides the data to support these priorities and the *2004 and 2005 State of the County's Health Reports*, go to www.pittcountync.gov/depts/health/stats/ or contact Jo Morgan at 252-902-2426.

Access To Care

Major goal - Increase the availability of health and dental care, including prescription medications, to low-income, uninsured persons within Pitt County. Data from the 2005 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) for Pitt County indicates that 16.7% of Pitt County adults are uninsured compared to 19.3% in 2004.

Highlights

- HealthAssist
 - Enrolled approximately 200 new persons in 2006 - Six year total of enrollees is 3,543 adults.
 - Provided 1,500 primary care visits
 - Purchased medications for clients at a dollar value of \$78,754 and accessed free medications from the pharmaceutical companies on behalf of clients for a dollar value of approximately \$122,581
 - Completed 148 vision exams and secured ongoing vision services for enrollees
 - Provided 45 health education and self improvement classes at the four community health centers – 1,239 attendees
 - Transportation Services
 - HealthAssist provided transportation assistance for 150 medical/health related visits to clients with no insurance.
 - Healthy Start funding supported transportation services for 148 women of childbearing age.
 - Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation provided funding to the Greenville Community Shelter to support medical, human service, and vocational transportation needs for 264 residents.
 - 2006 Give Kids A Smile Day
 - 95 children received dental health services during this event compared to 65 children in 2005
 - Services were valued at \$41,000
 - Volunteers included 24 dentists, 4 hygienists, 25 assistants, 7 students and approximately 98 other support staff
 - Smile Safari Dental Unit
 - Mobile dental van provides services to children with no dental insurance who are at or below 200% of poverty
 - Procedures included - 363 fillings, 25 extractions, 872 sealants, 621 exams and cleanings. *The number of services provided dropped in 2006 due to a near three month vacancy in the dentist position.*
 - Breast Cancer Screening and Awareness
 - Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center in collaboration with a number of community partners sponsored eight (8) breast cancer screenings. More than 200 women participated
 - Over 20 education programs were provided by the Cancer Center, Pitt County Health Department, and The Witness Project for Breast Cancer.
 - Lay Health Advisors
 - Four (4) volunteers provided education to more than 4,886 individuals to increase awareness of warning signs and prevention strategies for stroke, hypertension, and heart disease.
 - Volunteers provided 1,429 hours of service to the community and conducted 103 group sessions with 2,951 attendees.
 - Community Health Center
 - Construction completed on the James D. Bernstein Community Health Center - Opened December 2006
 - Federal Expanded Medical Capacity grant awarded to Greene County Health Care, Inc for operations of new Community Health Center
 - Center will increase access to health care for the uninsured and underinsured population in Pitt County.
 - School Nurse Program
 - 6,095 students were referred to school nurses for various health issues - 14% increase in the number of referrals from last year
 - 983 students were linked to care providers
 - 61 needy children received eye exams and eye glasses through a program administered by the School Nurse Program and funded by Pitt County Health Education Foundation
 - 14 needy children received medications through a School Nurse Program funded by Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation
 - Community Health Events
 - Approximately 25 area physicians volunteered their time to answer 693 calls during the *2006 Docs on Call* sponsored by Pitt County Medical Society, NC Medical Society, and WITN-TV 7.
 - Health care providers participated in various other community events and festivals to increase awareness of available health care resources.
- The Witness Project is a culturally based education program within the African American community. Thirteen (13) health advisors have been trained to provide breast cancer education. Funding provided by the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation (PMHF)*

Diabetes

Major goals - Increase the awareness of pre-diabetes and improve diabetes management through lifestyle modification. In 2005, 8.3% of Pitt County adults reported being told they have diabetes compared to 6% in 2004 and 7.4% in 2002. One hundred percent (100%) of people with diabetes who were surveyed stated they were advised by their health care provider to control their weight and 64% indicated they were advised to be physically active to control their diabetes. (Data source: BRFSS, 2005)

Highlights

- Winning With Diabetes
 - 335 people attended the 4th Annual "Winning With Diabetes" Conference aimed at providing education for improved diabetes management
- First Born Community Development Center
 - Provided "Diabetic Friendly" supplemental food boxes monthly to 119 people with diabetes. Also provided monthly exercise programs, nutrition education, and recipe/cooking demonstrations. Supported by a grant from the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation
- Diabetes CARE Project
 - Five (5) health advisors continue to work within African-American churches and communities to raise awareness for the signs and symptoms of diabetes and provide education on lifestyle modification.
- Services provided included educational programs, health screenings, referrals, and support groups
- Received mini-grant in 2006 from Pitt Partners for Health to support the work of the health advisors
- Diabetes Support Group
 - Monthly meetings of the American Diabetes Association, Pitt County Chapter are held at the ViQuest Center with an average attendance of 35. Meetings are open to the community and free of charge.

Heart Disease and Stroke

Major goals - Increase awareness of signs and symptoms of heart attack and stroke, improve management of high blood pressure and cholesterol, and improve emergency response. In 2005, 29% of people in Pitt County reported having elevated blood pressure and 36.4% reported having elevated cholesterol. The percentage of North Carolinians reporting these diseases is almost identical to Pitt County. Just over 10% (10.7) of Pitt County's population knew all of the heart attack warning symptoms in 2005 compared to 8.8% of Eastern NC and 10% of the state as a whole. Nearly 20% (19.7%) of Pitt County's population knew all of the stroke warning signs compared to 16% for Eastern NC and 16.6% for the State. (Data source: BRFSS, 2005)

Highlights

- Cholesterol and Blood Pressure Screening
 - Community partners hosted five (5) cholesterol and blood pressure screenings throughout Pitt County
 - 219 individuals received cholesterol screenings
 - 317 individuals received blood pressure screenings
- EMS Training
 - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) course and supplemental four hour American Heart Association stroke module course completed by 15 EMS personnel. This is the 2nd year the course has been offered by the sponsors with 26 EMS personnel trained in Year 1.
 - Course sponsored by the Eastern NC Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program and Pitt Community College
- Community Awareness Efforts
 - 498 women participated in the "Go Red" event in Pitt County to increase awareness of heart disease in women
 - Implemented a media campaign to increase awareness of the warning signs of heart attack and stroke
 - Placed warning signs in the *Strong at Heart* newspaper insert which is delivered to over 29,000 people and classrooms
 - Placed warning signs on PCMH Soundcare recorded message line
 - Placed article on warning signs in local newspaper
- Healthy Lives/Healthy Choices – Community Based Program
 - The Cornerstone Ministry, Inc was awarded a grant from the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund for three years in the amount of \$360,000 to reduce the racial disparity in cardiovascular disease morbidity and mortality in Pitt County.
- The East Carolina Heart Institute
 - Construction began on the new \$210 million East Carolina Heart Institute, a partnership between East Carolina University and Pitt County Memorial Hospital.
 - The \$150 million clinical facility will treat cardiovascular patients in a new, six-story tower that will include 120 beds, clinical space, diagnostic services and surgical suites. This clinical tower will be attached to the east end of Pitt County Memorial Hospital.
 - The research and education component of the Institute will be housed in a separate facility located near the Brody School of Medicine on the west campus of East Carolina University.
 - The N.C. General Assembly appropriated \$60 million in 2004 for ECU to build a new center for cardiovascular research, outpatient programs and education.
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
 - Pitt County Recreation Complex received one of six AEDs through the NC Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention AED Pilot Project.
- Related Activities – Tobacco Free Policies
 - Pitt County Schools adopted a 100% Tobacco Free Schools policy effective January 1, 2007.
 - PCMH and Pitt County Health Department adopted tobacco free policies that became effective in 2006.
 - ViQuest offered smoking cessation classes to community members free of charge throughout 2006.
 - The percentage of Pitt County adults who report being current smokers fell from 24.4% in 2002 to 18.3% in 2005. In comparison, the percentage of NC adults who report being current smokers fell from 26.2% in 2002 to 22.6% in 2005.

Nutrition and Physical Activity

Major goals: Prevent an increase in the percentage of Pitt County children who are overweight or at risk of being overweight, as well as increase the percentage of Pitt County adults who are at a healthy weight. Over 30% of Pitt County children are overweight or at risk for overweight. In 2005, 65.0% of Pitt County adults reported they were overweight or obese compared to 66.4% in 2004 and 56.2 in 2002. (Data source: NC-NPASS, 2005; BRFSS, 2005)

Highlights

- Fit Community Honorable Mention Designation
 - Pitt County received a Fit Community Honorable Mention designation from the Fit Community Program – a public-private partnership between Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NC and the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund.
 - Designation recognizes cities, towns, and counties for creating environments that actively support healthy living through the adoption and implementation of nutrition, physical activity, and tobacco-free policies
 - Eight (8) towns and cities in NC received the award. Pitt County was the only county recognized.
- Food Literacy Partners Program (FLPP)
 - There were a total of 80 new FLPP graduates in 2005-2006. Twenty-four (24) of the graduates were from Pitt County Schools. Currently there are 232 individuals who have completed training and serve as active volunteers. Each graduate is asked to volunteer at least 20 hours. The goal of this program is to provide accurate food and nutrition information. FLPP is supported by grant funding from the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation.
- Farmers Market Nutrition Education Program
 - Operated 15 education programs on Saturdays throughout the summer of 2006
 - Highlighting healthy recipes and utilizing fresh produce at the market, the program provided 1,910 food samples to visitors at the market.
 - Supported by a grant from the Pitt County Health Education Foundation
- Fresh Produce Initiative
 - 24,000 individuals living at or below poverty level received fresh fruits and vegetables from the Food Bank of North Carolina/Greenville Branch. The Food Bank distributed 842,000 pounds of fresh produce through 46 partnering agencies. This initiative was supported by the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation.
- Winner's Circle Healthy Dining Program
 - Nine (9) establishments participated in the Winner's Circle Healthy Dining Program – a program aimed at identifying menu items that meet the Winner's Circle criteria in order to help consumers make healthier dining choices.
 - Additionally, all Pitt County Schools' cafeterias participate in the program.
- ECU Pediatric Healthy Weight Research and Treatment Center
 - Received the "Good for Kids" award from the NC Pediatric Society, which is given to organizations that promote the health and well-being of youth
 - Recognized by the National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) as an innovative and promising clinical healthy weight program for children
 - Listed in NC's Plan to Prevent Overweight, Obesity & Related Chronic Diseases 2007-2012 as one of nine key resources for the state
 - Sponsored the 3rd Annual Pediatric Healthy Weight Summit with over 160 participants from 32 NC counties
 - Sponsored 15 Pediatric Healthy Weight Forums on a variety of obesity-related topics
 - Since 2004, provided comprehensive obesity evaluations for approximately 700 children at risk for overweight or overweight.
- Pediatric Healthy Weight Case Management Program, PCMH
 - Actively case managing 50 children utilizing an interdisciplinary case management model designed to work with overweight children and their families
 - Successfully completed three sessions of "Starting Point", a 10 week program designed to address lifestyle, behavioral and healthy eating changes for clients enrolled in case management
 - Developed and aired two television spots focusing on medical risks associated with childhood obesity and the importance of serving size. Plans for one additional television spot addressing BMI in children along with supporting brochures and posters are in development
 - Recognized in the July/August 2006 issue of the North Carolina Medical Society Journal, as well as at the National Health Care Congress on Childhood Obesity held in Washington DC in September 2006
 - Program featured in a video produced for presentation at the Healthier North Carolina Summit held in Raleigh NC. The Summit was hosted by the Trust for America's Health and Healthy Carolinians and funded by The Duke Endowment and Robert Wood Johnson.
- KIDPOWER Program
 - Approximately 500 Pitt County children at risk for overweight or overweight received Medical Nutrition Therapy consultations with a registered dietitian at nine (9) clinics throughout Pitt County.
- Pitt County Schools
 - Fourteen (14) elementary schools continue to provide school lunches utilizing the Eat Smart Standards.
 - Constructed walking trails at Bethel, Eastern Elementary, and Wellcome Middle School bringing the total to 11 schools with walking trails for school and community use
 - Funding provided by Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation and Health and Wellness Trust Fund grants
 - *Active Recess for All* implemented in over 500 K-5 classrooms
 - Physical education teachers received the Healthy Active Children Training from the NC Department of Public Instruction. These teachers are in the process of training all teachers in grades K-8.
 - Energizers (short, ten minute physical activities designed to be led by classroom teachers to enhance core curriculum concepts) are available to all K-8 classrooms. Energizers designed for the middle school grades are new for school year 06-07.
 - Sixteen (16) schools participated in Project YEAH!, an eight week program designed to encourage students to be more physically active in the after school hours.
 - Pitt County Schools participated in the International Walk to School Day. E.B. Aycock hosted the event which was sponsored by Pitt County Safe Kids Coalition and Safe Communities of Pitt County.
 - Presently 351 teachers and 8,308 students are involved in the Taste Explorer Program, a collaboration between the Child Nutrition Program and classroom teachers to promote fruits and vegetables.

Nutrition and Physical Activity (CONT)

- Growing Up FIT!
 - Developed and piloted several school based initiatives to improve physical activity and eating habits among children and their families. Some of the activities have been implemented system-wide such as *Active Recess for All* and parent newsletters
 - Monitored growth, flexibility, endurance, and eating patterns of students in six elementary schools over six years
 - Developed *Nutrition Across the Curriculum* - comprehensive food and nutrition lesson plans designed to meet NC's Standard Course of Study for grades 3-5. Four schools received manuals
 - Trained 100 teachers and over 300 community volunteers to conduct physical activity and nutrition education in the schools
 - Partnered with WITN-TV 7 to promote physical activity and healthy eating
 - Received a \$120,000 grant from Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation to develop a physical activity program for upper elementary and middle schools children
- ViQuest
 - Sponsored an after school activity program for 145 children
 - Held a Summer Wellness Camp with 283 children participating
 - Provided weight management programs for 200 children and family members – 74% reduced or maintained their BMI, 81% maintained or reduced their cholesterol, over 80% reduced or maintained their glucose levels
- Implemented an outreach program, *Getting Started*, at North Pitt High School to serve children with transportation barriers
- Weight management and outreach programs supported by a grant from the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation
- Community Schools and Recreation
 - Received a \$250,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for Phase I of the Pitt County District Park
- Eat Smart, Move More Community Initiative
 - Established a walking trail at the Greenville Town Common with a grant from the NC Division of Public Health. Partnership between the Pitt County Health Department and City of Greenville
 - Taped 30 minute cooking show on Channel 13, Pitt TV, entitled "Healthy Meals in a Hurry". Show demonstrated how viewers could prepare a healthy meal quickly and on a budget
- Community Awareness Efforts
 - Annual Nutrition and Physical Activity Fair held during National Nutrition Month, March 2006 – 20 exhibitors and 450 participants. Fair sponsored by Pitt Partners for Health and Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation
 - Participated in the State's year long kickoff of the Eat Smart, Move More initiative that provides citizens with the information and tools to *eat smart and move more where they live, learn, earn, play and pray*. Visit www.EatSmartMoveMoreNC.com

Infant Mortality

Major Goal: Improve birth outcomes among Pitt County babies. Pitt County works collaboratively with the Pitt Infant Mortality Prevention Advisory Council (PIMPAC) to improve birth outcomes and lower the infant mortality rate. Pitt County's infant mortality rate was 9.4 deaths per 1000 live births in 2005 compared to 8.8 for North Carolina. (Data source: State Center for Health Statistics)

Highlights

- Prematurity Awareness Campaign
 - PIMPAC members conducted presentations for over 577 employees of local businesses - focus on pregnancy planning and prematurity awareness messages.
 - Eastern Area Health Education Center (EAHEC), partnering with PIMPAC, conducted presentations to 1153 health care professionals throughout eastern NC regarding prevention of preterm births.
 - Health Department received funding from Wal-Mart, Pitt Partners for Health, March of Dimes, and PCMH Community Health Programs to support the 14th Annual "Making Pitt's Babies Fit" Maternity Fair. Approximately 1500 people attended the fair, an increase of 60% from 2005.
- Healthy Start Baby Love Plus/Healthy Start Initiative
 - Outreach provided to 3000 women of childbearing age. Approximately 640 women were linked to needed health and social resources.
- Healthy Beginnings
 - Provided education and social support services to 30 additional women at risk for poor pregnancy outcomes
 - Developed a lay health advisor training for breastfeeding promotion and smoking cessation – 11 women attended smoking cessation training and 7 attended breastfeeding training
- In-home Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program
 - Nearly 500 breastfeeding women received home visits and breastfeeding support from Pitt County Health Department and Pitt County Memorial Hospital's In-home Breastfeeding Support Programs.
- Infant Toddler Safe Sleep and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Risk Reduction in Child Care
 - 99 child care workers received "It's SIDS" training from Child Care Health Consultants funded by Martin/Pitt Partnership for Children
- Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention
 - Pitt County Health Department received a grant from the Pitt County Health Education Foundation to support a peer education program.
 - 21 adolescents serve as peer educators in a youth development program aimed at preventing adolescent pregnancy

STDs/HIV/AIDS

Major Goals: Decrease the rates of STDs including HIV through screening, treatment and prevention education. Pitt County ranks 22nd in the State for the average rate of HIV Disease cases. Pitt County's rate is 23.4/100,000 population compared to 21.6 for North Carolina. This past year Pitt County's number of chlamydia cases increased 15% over previous years to 908 cases of chlamydia. Pitt County continues to report about 450 cases of gonorrhea each year. The number of syphilis cases continues to be low due to aggressive contact investigation. (Data source: NC HIV/STD Prevention & Care Branch)

Highlights

- Pitt County Health Department
 - STDs screenings provided
 - Gonorrhea – more than 5000 tests
 - Chlamydia – more than 3000 tests
 - Syphilis – more than 3800 tests
 - HIV – more than 2500 tests
 - 511 home visits made to identify or notify contacts to syphilis, HIV, or AIDS
 - 53 home visits made in order to provide treatment for hard to reach clients
 - Over 1500 individuals received STD/HIV risk reduction education within the community.
- Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (PiCASO)
 - Provided outreach services and prevention education to over 1,000 individuals
 - Implemented the *Prevention for Positives* initiative. Over 50 HIV positive individuals have received individualized counseling in HIV prevention education.
 - Recently established a Peer Mentoring Program – Five (5) clients have completed the training and agreed to serve as peer mentors.
- Brody School of Medicine, Department of Infectious Disease
 - Established an HIV Clinic to provide improved access to care for individuals with HIV. Funding provided by Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation, Kate B. Reynolds, and Ryan White funds

Older Adult Health

Major Goals: Raise awareness about the needs of older adults while promoting healthier more independent lives for senior citizens in our community.

Highlights

- Medicare Part D/Medicare Prescription Drug Plans
 - 37 workshops/presentations provided by the Council on Aging staff and volunteers with the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program – 2,936 attendees
 - Council on Aging staff and volunteers with the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program held 66 enrollment and comparison clinics.
 - More than 2,887 Medicare beneficiaries received one on one counseling and assistance with Medicare Part D enrollment and plan comparison.
- Pitt County Health Literacy Council
 - Conducted a pilot project, *What's In Your Red Bag?*, aimed at addressing medication safety. Thirty-eight (38) older adults were given a red bag to store all of their medicines and a form to list their medications, the frequency of use, and the purpose of each medication. Tips for communicating with healthcare providers were also provided. As a result of the project, Pitt County Memorial Hospital has purchased 2,000 bags for distribution throughout the community.
- AARP Safe Driver Course
 - Collaborative effort between AARP and Safe Communities Coalition
 - Five (5) Safe Driver courses offered in 2006 to older adults – 73 participants
- 8th Annual Memory Walk
 - Fundraiser to benefit the Eastern NC Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association
 - Over \$17,000 raised
- Spice For Life
 - 280 adults received education on safety issues within the home, including falls prevention
 - Installed equipment in the homes of 12 at-risk older adults which allows the adults to function more independently and reduce the risk for falls
- Falls Prevention Project
 - Supported by a grant from the Safe Communities Coalition of Pitt County
 - ECU Departments of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy, Senior Services with Pitt County Memorial Hospital, and Community Schools and Recreation participated in a collaborative effort to obtain research data on balance for older adults.
 - Four (4) posters were created and multiple copies distributed throughout Pitt County to promote fall prevention among older adults. Graphic Art students at Pitt Community College developed the posters.
- Health and Resource Programs
 - Legs for Life, a screening for Peripheral Vascular Disease, was held in Farmville, Winterville, and Bethel. Approximately 60 people participated
 - 250 older adults attended the 20th Annual Elder Fair hosted by Pitt Aging Coalition
 - More than 50 older adults participated in Senior Health and Fitness Day held at ViQuest Center.
 - Over 200 older adults participated in the Senior Safety Fair sponsored by the Family Violence Program – 30 organizations exhibited safety information. Fair supported by a grant from the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation
 - Community Schools and Recreation hosted the Move More with Arthritis statewide campaign – collaboration with Division of Public Health
 - A variety of health education and physical activity opportunities for older adults are provided by Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Pitt County Community Schools and Recreation, and ViQuest.
- New Senior Center
 - Pitt County Council on Aging broke ground for a new multi-purpose Senior Center in October 2006.

Substance Abuse

Major goal: Reduce substance abuse among school aged children by increasing youth perception of the risk regarding the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs and increase youth perception of disapproval of drug use by peers and parents. The Pitt County Coalition on Substance Abuse worked collaboratively with various organizations in 2006 to address the goal of this priority area.

Highlights

- Educational Forums
 - Over 200 parents attended a program on the findings of the 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.
 - 3,400 students and 175 parents and community members took part in the week long event *Attitude Is Everything – Dreams Not Drugs*
 - 70 professionals attended a training session - *Aggression, Antisocial and Delinquent Behavior: Keeping Our Kids in School*
 - 18 participants attended two parent workshops, *Understanding and Working with Adolescents Through Parental Empowerment*, led by Dr. Fred Dyer
- Parent Education Program
 - In it's second year, trained an additional 10 facilitators in *Guiding Good Choices* - a substance abuse prevention curriculum designed for parents with children ages 8-13
 - Implemented *Guiding Good Choices* programs in two Pitt County schools for a total of four programs provided. Partnered with Eastern Carolina Injury Prevention Program to expand and sustain the parent training program with grant funding from the Pitt Memorial Hospital Foundation
 - Safe Communities Coalition implemented a direct mail campaign to educate parents/guardians of high school juniors and seniors, as well as business establishments, on the laws for underage drinking.
- At Risk Youth Programs
 - *Reconnecting Youth* course offered for at risk youth in all six high schools (a semester long curriculum designed to keep at risk kids from dropping out, increase academic achievement, improve positive communication skills, reduce substance use and abuse, and plan achievable educational goals). This is a collaborative effort with Mental Health, Pitt County Schools, and PORT Human Services.
- Initiated a pilot program on substance use and media literacy at Eppes Middle School in October 2005. Students designed advertisements on underage drinking which began airing at the local cinema in October 2006.
- *WAZZUP?, Gang, Violence and Substance Abuse* - youth and parent educational outreach collaborative with the Mediation Center of Eastern Carolina, Greenville Police Department and Citizens United Against Violence – 45 youth and 20 parents were in attendance
- Greenville Youth Council agreed to be the Substance Abuse Coalition's Advisory Task Force for youth issues. Youth representatives are developing a video on underage drinking.
- Drug Court
 - Drug Court was implemented in August 2005 as an intensive treatment alternative to incarceration - Currently 20 individuals actively participating in the program
 - Cost analysis performed by the Pitt County Sheriff Office shows a savings of approximately \$60,000. Savings are attributed to significantly fewer days of incarceration.
- DWI Court
 - Established in October 2005 to address the backlog of pending DWI cases
 - Disposed of 2,211 cases in fiscal year 2005-2006
 - Number of DWI cases disposed of increased by 22% from fiscal year 2004-2005 to 2005-2006

2007 Community Health Assessment

In 2007, Pitt County will conduct a comprehensive community health assessment and select health priorities for the next four years. Pitt Partners for Health and Pitt County Health Department will lead this effort. In addition to identifying the leading causes of mortality and morbidity within our community, this assessment will include a review of the socioeconomic, educational, and environmental factors that affect health. Your input in this process will be critical. Community surveys and discussion groups will be available throughout the year. We hope that you will participate in this very critical process.

Acknowledgements

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2006 State of the County's Health Report

While every attempt has been made to summarize the major activities occurring within Pitt County to address each of the priority areas, it is acknowledged that some programs may not be represented in this report. Please contact Jo Morgan, Pitt County Health Department, at 252-902-2426 or email djmorgan@pittcountync.gov to ensure that information about your program as it relates to one of the priority areas for Pitt County is included in future reports.

For more information about how you can become involved in working to address one or more of the health priorities, please contact Kristen Brooks, Pitt Partners for Health Coordinator, at 252-847-8265.