

**Beaufort County Health Department
Board of Health**

March 21, 2023 Meeting

☒ Regular Meeting ☐ Special Meeting

1) Call to Order:

The Beaufort County Board of Health (BOH) meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair, David Howdy.

Members Present:

- David Howdy, DDS and Chair
- Jessica Triche, MD, Physician and Vice-Chair
- Chris Padgett, OD
- Marty Poffenberger, DVM
- Robert Belcher, Member-at-large
- Hood Richardson, County Commissioner
- Shelia Slade, RN
- Mark Roy, Engineer

Members Absent:

- Stewart Ham, Member-at-large
- Angela Biggs, PharmD
- Joe Hooker, Member-at-large

Quorum present

Staff present:

- JaNell Octigan, Health Director
- Sara Graham, Business Officer
- Stacey Harris, Environmental Health Supervisor
- Ashley Singleton, Healthy Beginnings Coordinator
- Pamela Brinn, Advanced Practice Provider

2) Public Comment:

None.

3) Old Business:

Approval of January 17, 2023 meeting minutes:

David Howdy asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 meeting if there were no requested revisions. Motion made by Jessica Triche to

approve the minutes as written. Chris Padgett provided a second to the motion which passed with all in favor.

North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation

Mrs. Octigan informed the Board that the health department has been recommended for reaccreditation with honors. During the February site visit, it was reported that the agency met all 147 activities. Andy Smith, site visitor, stated it was the best site visit he has ever been on. Mrs. Octigan thanked the staff for their hard work and this achievement.

4) New Business:

FY 2023-2024 Consolidated Agreement:

Mrs. Octigan presented the Consolidated Agreement (contract between the health department, Division of Public Health, and the NC Division of Child and Family Well-Being). It outlines requirements for the agencies and applies to all activities funded by DHHS. This must be approved annually by the Board of Health and the County Commissioners. The list of changes and a copy of the Consolidated Agreement was sent to all Board members on March 14, 2023.

Motion made by Chris Padgett to accept the Consolidated Agreement. Jessica Triche provided a second to the motion which passed. Hood Richardson abstained from voting.

FY 2023-2024 Proposed Budget:

Mrs. Octigan presented the FY 2023-2024 proposed health department budget. Board members received copies of the budget in the packet or via email for review prior to the meeting.

The requested continuation budget is \$4,852,418. The total budget request is less than the current year amended budget. Mrs. Octigan stated that she did a thorough review of the budget and all program requests. There are no expansion item requests. Mrs. Octigan informed the Board that there are several funding streams that are discontinued next year such as the Infant Mortality Grant, Medication Assisted Treatment, and the COVID Schools ARPA. County allocation is approximately 40% of the FY24 proposed budget.

Mrs. Octigan stated the proposed budget does not include jail health. After much consideration and discussions with the Sheriff's Office and County Manager, the health department has decided to no longer be the provider for inmate medical health. Several other public health initiatives will continue at the detention center such as the ITTS program that provides HIV, Hepatitis C, and Syphilis testing.

Robert Belcher asked if the proposed budget includes any cost-of-living adjustments for staff. Sara Graham responded that cost of living adjustments are recommended at the County Manager level.

Robert Belcher made a motion to accept the proposed FY 2023-2024 budget. Mark Roy seconded the motion. Hood Richardson abstained from voting. Motion passed.

Budget Amendments:

Mrs. Octigan requested Board approval for the following budget amendments:

- \$7,300 WIC Hyde County subcontract
- \$147,749 Regional ARPA Public Health Funding
- \$246,181.48 Trillium Opioid Remediation Grant
- \$4,480 Care Management Equipment Funding

Mrs. Octigan explained that the Hyde County WIC program has been discontinued and BCHD will be the provider for Hyde County. WIC staff will go to Hyde County once a month. Clients can also choose to visit our facility for benefits. We will receive additional funding from the state. Mrs. Octigan shared the following projects that will be possible with the regional ARPA funds: complete record scanning, keyless door system, equipment, and training opportunities.

Beaufort County Health Department was awarded a Trillium grant to purchase harm reduction supplies and a body scanner for the detention center. Mrs. Octigan explained this will prevent drugs and other illegal items from being brought into the facility.

A motion was made by Jessica Triche to accept the budget amendments as presented and a second to the motion was provided by Chris Padgett. The motion passed. Hood Richardson abstained from voting.

Hood Richardson presented new business regarding trash dumping on lots and private property. There is a current issue on Magnolia School Road and there has been a lack of support to solve the problem. Mr. Richardson will be looking for solutions to bring to the County Commissioners. He stated he did not bring this up for any public health action but rather as informative.

5) Financial Reports:

Two financial reports for FY 2023 (as of 02/28/23) were shared and discussed with the Board:

1. Budget \$5,873,899. Expenditures 57% to budget (\$3,324,222.32)
2. Aged Accounts (Slide 6)

6) Community Health Updates:

Three community health reports were presented to the Board.

COVID-19 (Slides 8-13):

- 941 Covid tests performed via ECU Health in February, 109 positives (11.6% positive)
- 1,230 Covid tests performed via ECU Health in January, 174 positives (14.1% positive)
- Graph of percent positive for Beaufort County January 2020-current
- 14.7 million COVID virus particles in wastewater
- Beaufort County Vaccination Status:
 - People Vaccinated with Updated Booster Dose: 5,519
 - Percent of Population Vaccinated with Updated Booster Dose: 21%
- NCDHHS COVID-19 Data Dashboard will transition from more COVID specific to more of a NC Respiratory Illness Dashboard, on March 29, 2023
- CDC expanded its recommendation to allow children ages 6 months through 4 years to now receive a booster dose of Pfizer updated bivalent vaccine 2 months after completing the series.

The Board discussed how confusing it is for the public to understand what vaccine they need and if it is the most current. Mrs. Octigan responded that the staff is working on educational materials.

Infant Mortality Report:

Ashley Singleton presented data on infant mortality rates (handout attached). Ashley shared the following infant mortality rate data for 2021:

- US 5.4 per 1,000 births
- NC 6.9 per 1,000 births
- Beaufort County 10 per 1,000 births

The leading causes were discussed to include birth defects, preterm birth and low birth weight, SIDS, and SUIDs. Ashley highlighted the disparities among minority women especially in North Carolina. High poverty and rural areas such as Beaufort County also contribute. Prevention strategies at the health department include safe sleep education, tobacco cessation, breastfeeding support, nutrition support, and preconception health.

Ashley concluded the presentation with a brief overview of her program Healthy Beginnings which focuses on improving birth outcomes among minority women, reducing minority infant morbidity and mortality, and supporting families.

Disease and Health Report:

Mrs. Octigan provided the Board with updated information on the annual health of the county including health factors, health outcomes, mortality, teen health (slide 16), and access to care (slide 17).

Beaufort County ranks **#80** of 100 NC Counties

Health Factors

Health Factors represent those things we can modify to improve the length and quality of life for residents.

Beaufort (BE) is ranked in the lower middle range of counties in North Carolina (Lower 25%-50%).



Health Outcomes

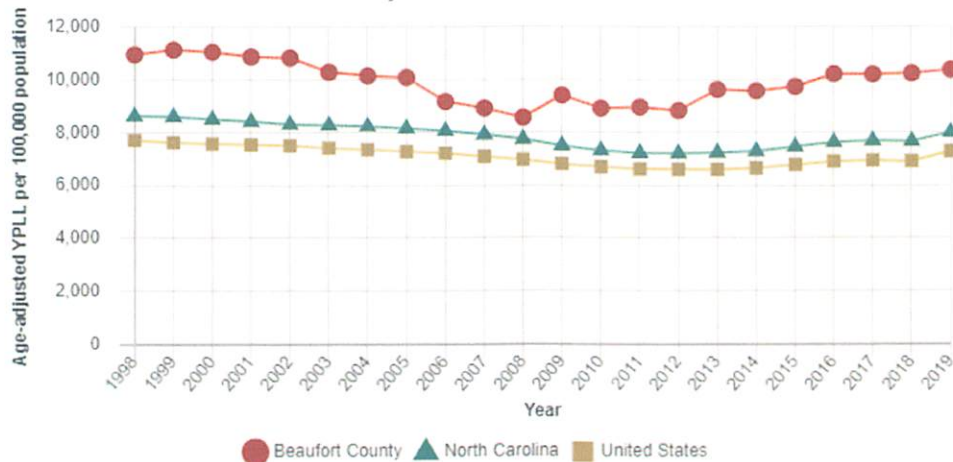
Health outcomes represent how healthy a county is right now, in terms of length of life but quality of life as well.

Beaufort (BE) is ranked among the least healthy counties in North Carolina (Lowest 0%-25%).



Premature death in Beaufort County, NC Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL): county, state and national trends

No significant long term trend was found in Beaufort County for this measure. However, in recent years the trend has worsened.



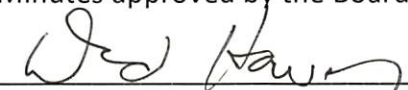
7) Adjournment of meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm with Jessica Triche motioning for the meeting to be adjourned and Robert Belcher providing the second to the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Minutes recorded by:


Sara Graham, Business Officer
Beaufort County Health Department

Minutes approved by the Board of Health on May 16, 2023:


David Howdy, DDS Board of Health Chair



Board of Health

March 21st, 2023

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Old Business

- January 17, 2023 – Approval of minutes
- North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation



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New Business

- FY 2023-2024 Consolidated Agreement
- FY 2023 - 2024 Health Department Budget Proposal
- FY 2022-2023 Budget Amendments



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Budget Amendments & Fee Revisions

Budget amendments submitted March 6, 2023 to Board of Commissioners:

- *\$7,300 WIC Subcontract for Hyde County*
- *\$147,759 Regional ARPA Public Health Funding*

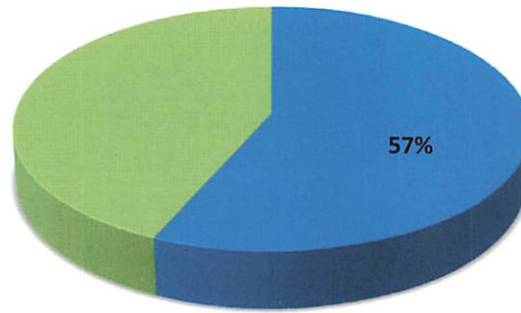
Budget amendments for the April 6, 2023 meeting:

- *\$246,181.48 Trillium Opioid Remediation Grant*
- *\$4,480 Care Management Equipment Funding*



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FY 2023 Expenditures (as of 02/28/23)



■ Expenses \$3,324,222.32
■ Budget \$5,873,899



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Aged Accounts (as of 02/2023)

	<30	60	90	>120
Patient Pay	\$6,947.89	\$6,740.88	\$3,965.94	\$29,698.88
Insurance	\$8,236.74	\$2,949.00	\$1,175.56	\$890.50
Medicaid	\$9,590.90	\$1,540.73	\$125.00	\$328.23
Debt Setoff				\$92,730.02
Total \$164,920.27	\$24,775.53	\$11,230.61	\$5,266.50	\$123,647.63



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Beaufort County Community Health Updates

- 1 COVID-19
- 2 Infant Mortality Report
- 3 Disease and Health Report



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COVID-19

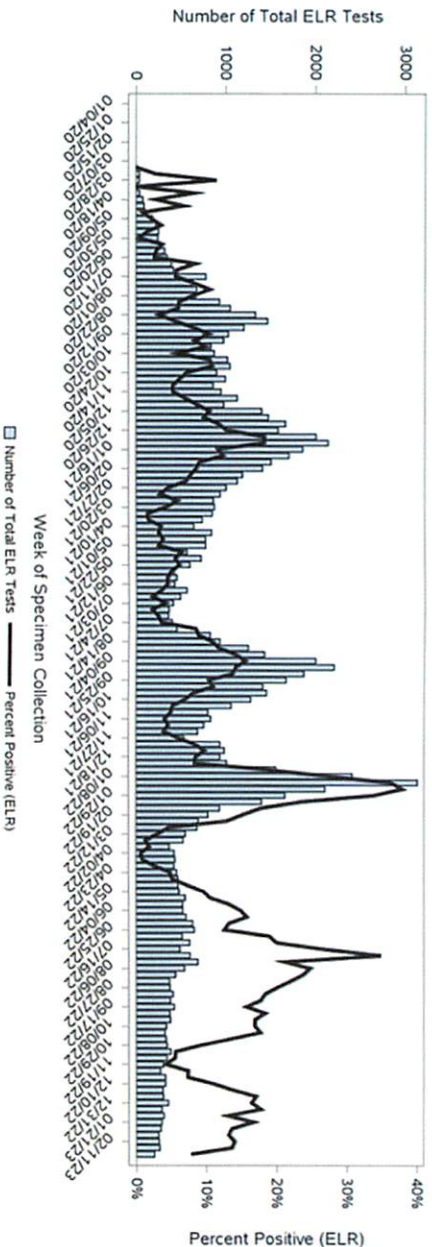
- 941 Covid tests performed via ECU Health in February, 109 positives (11.6% positive)
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Tests conducted via ECU Health in Beaufort County



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Percent Positive for Beaufort County



- NOTES**
- 1) The total number of tests represents only positive, negative, and indeterminate COVID-19 test results coming from labs using electronic lab reporting (ELR) to report to NC DPH. New labs are continuously being onboarded for ELR.
 - 2) The week represents the week of specimen collection.
 - 3) Data is reported by county as last laboratory reported to the NC DPH's website.
 - 4) Data is the first date of specimen collection for each week.
 - 5) Recently collected specimens may not yet be reported.

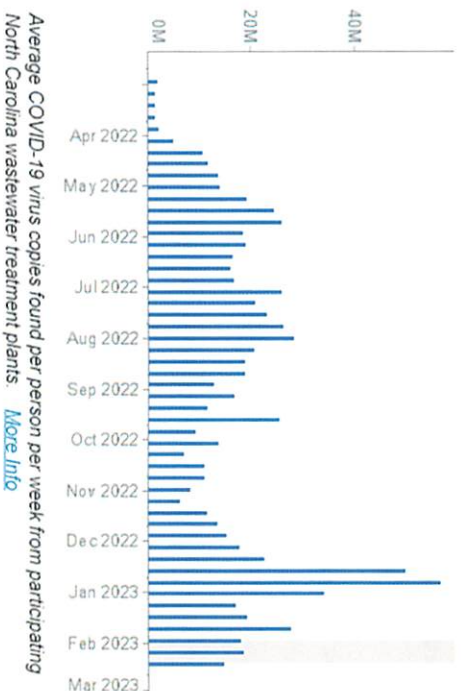


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14.7 Million Previous Week 18.3 Million

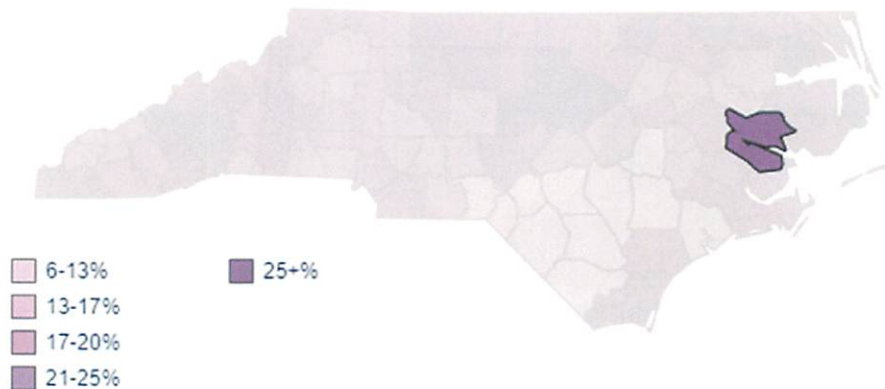
COVID-19 Virus Particles Found in Wastewater

COVID-19 virus particles appearing in wastewater can signal how quickly the virus is spreading, even if people don't get tested or have symptoms.



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Percent of Vaccinated Population with Updated Booster



Beaufort County Vaccination Status:

People Vaccinated with Updated Booster Dose: **5,519**

Percent of Population Vaccinated with Updated Booster Dose: **21%**



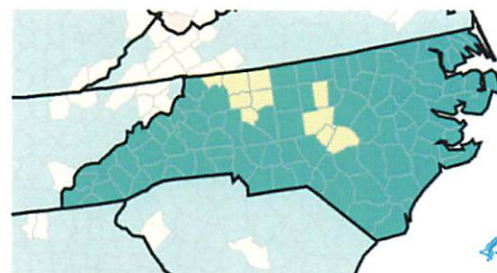
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CDC COVID-19 Community Levels by County

0/100 Previous Week 1/100

Counties with a high risk of illness and strain on the health care system

The Centers for Disease Control assign a community risk level for every county. [More info](#) or [find your county](#)



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COVID-19 Updates

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Annual Disease & Health Report

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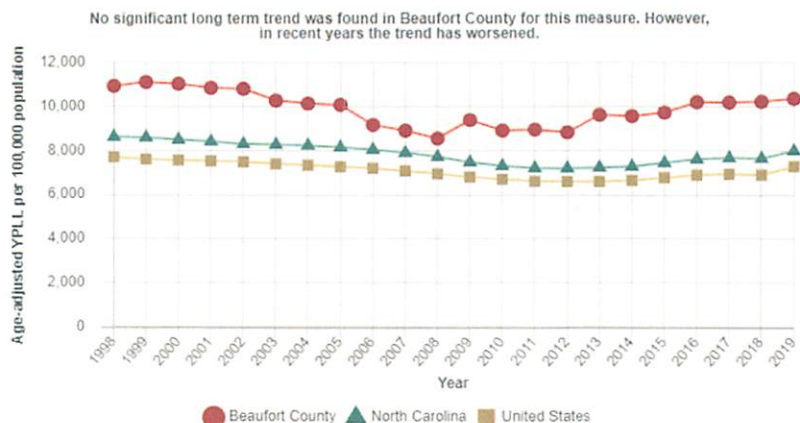
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Mortality Data

Premature death in Beaufort County, NC Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL): county, state and national trends



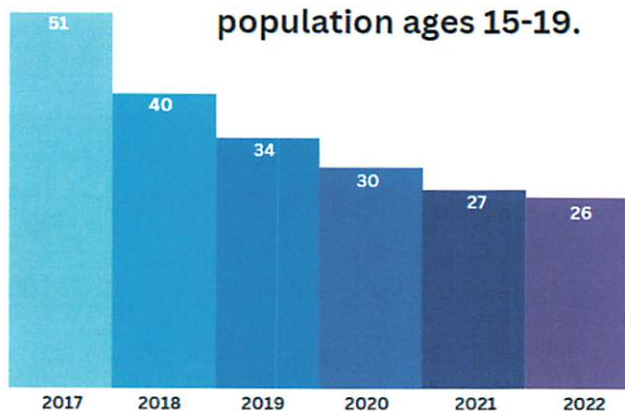
Leading Causes of Death Under Age 75	Deaths	Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000
Malignant neoplasms	207	93.1
Diseases of heart	164	75.6
Accidents	79	64.1
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	47	18.7
Cerebrovascular diseases	41	18.1



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Teen Sexual Health

Number of births per 1,000 female population ages 15-19.



2022 Annual STD Report



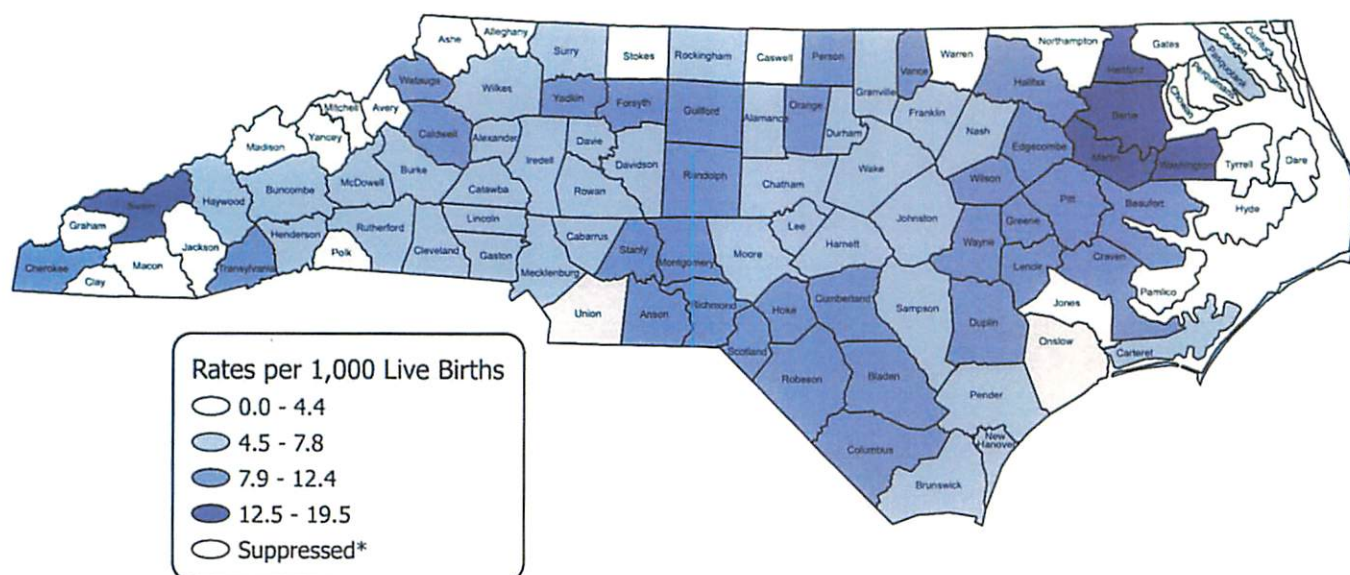
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Access to Care



	Beaufort County	NC	Data Year
Uninsured Adults % of adults age 18 to 64 years without health insurance	15.7%	15.5%	2018
Uninsured Children % of children age 18 and under without health insurance	5.8%	5.4%	2018
Medicaid & CHIP Enrollees % of population enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP	29.9%	25.0%	SFY 2019
Health Care Workforce - Primary Care Physicians Primary care physicians per 10,000 population	3.8	8	2019
Health Care Workforce - Dentists Dentists per 10,000 population	3.8	5	2019
Health Care Workforce - Psychiatrists & Psychologists Psychologists, psychiatrists, addiction psychiatrists, and pediatric psychiatrists per 10,000 population	0.4	3.6	2019
Health Care Workforce - Birth Attendants OB/GYNs/family medicine physicians/CNMs per 10,000 population	3.6	4.2	2018

North Carolina Infant Mortality Rates by County 2017 - 2021



*Rates based on less than 10 deaths are unreliable and should be used with caution.

North Carolina 2021 Infant Mortality Rates by Perinatal Care Regions (PCR)

