

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Former House Speaker Morgan Appoints Wrightsville Beach Dental Hygiene Instructor as HWTF Commissioner**

**(Wrightsville Beach, NC)** – Cape Fear Community College Dental Hygiene Instructor Beverly Hardee was recently appointed to serve a four-year term as a member of the N.C. Health and Wellness Trust Fund (HWTF).

Hardee was appointed by Representative Richard T. Morgan to serve as one of 18 HWTF Commissioners. Her term expires June 2008.

The Trust Fund was created by the General Assembly as one of three entities to invest North Carolina's portion of the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement. The Governor, President Pro Tempore, and the Speaker of the House have the authority to appoint six members each. By statute, HWTF must be comprised of persons in public health, operation of healthcare delivery systems, healthcare practice, health research, tobacco-related healthcare issues, health promotion and disease prevention, health policy trends, healthcare for underserved populations, and child healthcare.

"Beverly brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the Trust Fund," said Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue, chair of HWTF. "Her background in the health care field will be a great asset in helping us accomplish our mission to help all North Carolinians achieve better health."

The Wrightsville Beach dental hygiene instructor has 19 years of dental hygiene experience and is a member of the American Dental Hygienists' Association, the North Carolina Dental Hygiene Academy of Advanced Studies, the North Carolina Dental Hygienists' Association and the Cape Fear Dental Hygiene Society. In addition, she serves as the state advisor for the North Carolina Student American Dental Hygiene Association. Hardee currently works as a dental hygiene instructor in the Cape Fear Community College dental hygiene program.

### **ABOUT THE NC HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRUST FUND:**

The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund makes North Carolina stronger, both physically and economically, by funding programs that promote preventive health. Created by the General Assembly in 2000 to allocate a portion of North Carolina's share of the national tobacco settlement, HWTF has invested \$55 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$78 million to fund a prescription drug assistance program. For more information, please visit [www.hwtfc.org](http://www.hwtfc.org).

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