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**HWTF Honors Triangle Community Champions with
2005 *Distinguished Service Award in Preventive Health***

**Lucille Webb honored with *Addressing Disparities Award*,
Jim Bernstein posthumously receives *Career Achievement Award***

RALEIGH, NC – Proven and innovative approaches make preventive health a priority. It is this kind of commitment that has earned both Lucille Webb and the late Jim Bernstein of Raleigh the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund's (HWTF) inaugural *Distinguished Service Award in Preventive Health*. Lt. Gov. Beverly Perdue, who serves as HWTF chair, presented Webb with the *Addressing Disparities Award* and Bernstein's wife, Sue, with the *Career Achievement Award* on Dec. 6 at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh.

The new *Distinguished Service in Preventive Health Awards* were created to recognize North Carolina's top community leaders who have demonstrated a tireless commitment to the health and wellness of North Carolina's citizens. These recipients represent various professions including education, government, medicine, business and philanthropy. This year, 11 individuals from across the state received this high honor from Lt. Gov. Perdue and the HWTF.

"Lucille's work focuses on developing programs and partnerships that lead to greater economic, health, employment and education opportunities for all families," said Lt. Gov. Perdue. "Her vision came out of a collaborative effort of community organizations who decided to work together to find solutions."

Webb is a founding member of Strengthening the Black Family, Inc. and president of its board of directors. She has spent the past 20 years as a community health advocate and volunteer and chairs the executive committee of Project DIRECT, a CDC-funded diabetes research development project. Webb is a retired social studies teacher and personnel administrator for the Wake County Public School System.

Bernstein, the former Assistant Secretary for Health with the NC Department of Health and Human Services, established the prescription assistance model used by the architects of Senior Care – HWTF's Prescription Drugs Initiative. This initiative was devised to assist seniors and other low-income individuals in getting access to prescription drugs. In 1973, Bernstein created the NC Office of Research, Demonstrations and Rural Health Development, where he served as its first director. The office was the first of its kind in the nation and has since become a national model. In addition, he was the inspiration behind MARP, a software-driven research engine that HWTF's Medication Assistance Program grantees have used to deliver more than \$48 million in prescription drugs to low-income residents statewide. Bernstein died in July.

"Like many here today, I was a great admirer of Jim's work," said Lt. Gov. Perdue. "Jim passed away in July, but not before making his mark in health care. I am honored that the Trust Fund's Senior Care and MARP programs are modeled after his vision. Thousands of North Carolinians are beneficiaries of his years of hard work and dedication."

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 invests in programs and partnerships related to teen tobacco use, prescription drugs, childhood obesity and health disparities. For more information, please visit www.HealthWellNC.com.