

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund awards new grants to promote healthy lifestyles for all North Carolinians

\$11.2 Million Grants Awarded for Health Disparities and Medication Assistance Program

(Raleigh, NC) – Today, the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund (HWTF) solidified its commitment to promoting preventive health for all North Carolinians by announcing the recipients of more than \$11 million in grant funding to organizations throughout the state. Grants were awarded in two HWTF initiatives - Eliminating Health Disparities and the Medication Assistance Program (MAP).

Since its inception, the Trust Fund has awarded nearly 200 grants statewide to address problems like childhood obesity, youth tobacco use, health disparities and access to medications. This past December, the Trust Fund awarded \$15.7 million in grant funding over three years to 49 statewide organizations in the Teen Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Initiative.

New grant recipients include:

- ***Twenty-three (23) organizations received \$9.2 million in grant funding over three years to work toward reducing disparities, for children and adults related to obesity and chronic diseases.***
- ***Fifty (50) organizations received \$2 million in grant funding over 18 months to help low-income North Carolina residents gain access to prescription drugs that many find they are unable to pay for.***

Through its grant programs, the Trust Fund will continue to form partnerships and work tirelessly in local communities to ensure that all North Carolinians have an opportunity live a healthy life.

“We are in the business of investing in families, in communities and in North Carolina,” said Lt. Gov. Bev Perdue, HWTF chair. “As a commission, it is our goal to make North Carolina the healthiest state in America. By funding important initiatives like these, we are moving closer to reaching this goal.”

****REPORTERS: Visit www.HealthWellNC.com to find a complete list of grants****

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 \$127 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$78 million to fund a prescription drug assistance program. For more information, please visit www.HealthWellNC.com.

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