

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund Awards More Than \$1.75 Million for Youth
Tobacco Prevention Initiatives**
Six Grants to Support Efforts in 14 Counties

Raleigh, NC – The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund (HWTF) announced six grant awards totaling \$1,757,000 to four organizations in Northeastern NC and two organizations in the Triangle, as part of its Teen Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation (TTUPC) initiative.

At the December 5, 2008 meeting of the HWTF Commission, the funding was approved for these TTUPC awards to support community-based efforts to reduce youth smoking. These grant awards are part of the nearly \$17 million in grants to 54 organizations across the state as part of HWTF's TTUPC initiative.

"We want to continue to build on the momentum that has begun with our TTUPC initiative," said Vandana Shah, HWTF Executive Director. "And thanks to grassroots efforts like these and our statewide TRU media campaign, the number of North Carolina teens choosing a tobacco-free lifestyle is continuing to grow."

For organizations in Northeastern NC, four TTUPC grants ranging from \$222,000 to \$296,000 were provided to continue their public health initiatives, addressing problems associated with youth tobacco use in their service areas.

Two TTUPC grants (one for \$300,000 and another for \$450,000) were awarded to organizations to sustain and enhance existing teen tobacco use prevention and cessation efforts in Durham and Wake counties, respectively.

The list of other Phase IV TTUPC grant awards is posted at www.HealthWellNC.com (click on 'HWTF Funding Opportunities' in the upper right corner).

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 \$199 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$102 million to fund prescription drug assistance programs. For more information, please visit www.HealthWellNC.com.

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**Teen Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Grantees
Northeastern, NC**

Grantee	Counties Served	Award Amount
Albemarle Regional Health Services	Bertie, Camden, Gates and Pasquotank	\$223,000
Dare County Health Department	Currituck, Dare and Hyde	\$296,000
Edgecombe County Health Department	Edgecombe, Northampton and Warren	\$222,000
Martin-Tyrrell-Washington Health District	Beaufort and Martin	\$266,000

**Total TTUPC
Grant Awards
Northeastern, NC: \$1,007,000**

**Teen Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Grantees
Wake and Durham Counties**

Grantee	Counties Served	Award Amount
The Alice Aycock Poe Center for Health Education	Wake	\$450,000
Durham County Health Department	Durham	\$300,000

**Total TTUPC
Grant Awards
Wake and Durham Counties: \$750,000**

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