Eleven Health Departments Receive Accreditation Status

Congratulations to the following health departments who were granted Accreditation Status on December 14, 2012! There are now 73 Accredited health departments in North Carolina (86%).

Alexander County Health Department
* Buncombe County Health Department
* Carteret County Health Department
* Chatham County Health Department
* Davidson County Health Department
* Henderson County Health Department
  Martin-Tyrrell-Washington Health District
* New Hanover County Health Department
* Pender County Health Department
  Toe River Health District
* Yadkin County Health Department

* Re-Accredited
Summary of NCLHDA Annual Evaluation

The NC Local Health Department Accreditation program has been evaluated on an annual basis by Evaluation Services at the North Carolina Institute for Public Health.

Highlights from the FY 2012 evaluation indicate that program participants (agency accreditation coordinators, health directors, site visitors, and consultants) continue to give accreditation administrator staff high ratings of effectiveness. Participants appreciate the staff’s proactive communications and. Staff continues to improve the program based on evaluation feedback.

Key improvements in process include review and revision of the HDSAI and Interpretation Document by the Standards Review & Revision Workgroup and creation of a “tool box” to assist health departments in preparing for and monitoring re-accreditation requirements through the NC Center for Public Health Quality’s Re-Accreditation QI Project. Completed improvements include revised accreditation scoring requirements submitted to the Commission for Public Health, an updated annual accreditation training webinar, and a “Between Cycle Checklist” to assist health departments in monitoring re-accreditation requirements that include a time element.

New Accreditation Scoring Requirements

The following changes were approved by the RCC on January 17, 2013, and are effective February 1, 2013.

10A NCAC 48B.0103 ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

(a) To receive an accreditation status of “accredited,” a local health department must satisfy all of the accreditation standards contained in this Subchapter. In order to satisfy the accreditation standards, the local health department shall satisfy 33 of 41 benchmarks. Two of the 33 benchmarks may come from any of the three standards listed below; 31 of the benchmarks shall be met activities under the standards according to the following proportions:

(1) Standard 1. Agency core functions and essential services:
   (A) The local health department must satisfy at least six of the 26 of the 29 activities listed in the benchmarks contained in Sections .0200 and .0300 of this Subchapter;
   (B) The local health department must satisfy at least five of the 23 of the 26 activities listed in the benchmarks contained in Sections .0400 through .0600 of this Subchapter;
   (C) The local health department must satisfy at least 11 of the 34 of the 38 activities listed in the benchmarks contained in Sections .0700 through .1100 of this Subchapter;

(2) Standard 2. Facilities and administrative services: The local health department must satisfy at least three of the 24 of the 27 activities listed in the benchmarks contained in Section .1200 of this Subchapter;

(3) Standard 3. Board of Health: The local health department must satisfy at least six of the 25 of the 28 activities listed in the benchmarks contained in Section .1300 of this Subchapter.

(b) In order to satisfy a benchmark, an activity, the local health department must carry out satisfy all of the activities requirements prescribed for that benchmark activity. Failure to complete any activity requirement associated with a benchmark an activity means that the benchmark activity is not satisfied.

HDSAI Updates

The HDSAI was updated on September 24, 2012 to reflect current programs offered/funded by the NC Division of Public Health. The changes are limited to Activity 17.1 and Activity 22.2. The table that accompanies Activity 22.2 has been updated to include all Environmental Health (EH) programs that now come under the NC Division of Public Health. Formerly, these EH programs were listed in their own table under Activity 17.1. Since the tables are now consolidated into a single table under Activity 22.2, there is no longer a table provided under Activity 17.1.
**Staffing Update**

Brittan Wood recently left her position as accreditation administrator to join the Public Health Accreditation Board, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving and protecting the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of Tribal, state, local, and territorial public health departments. We wish her the best of luck.

Taking over for her as accreditation administrator is **Dorothy Cilenti, DrPH**, deputy director of the NC Institute for Public Health.

We also say farewell to Rich Rosselli, state accreditation coordinator, who left us in December. Good luck to you, Rich.

We are pleased to introduce two new site visit coordinators, **Eunice Inman** and **Rosemary Summers**. Eunice recently retired after 31 years as a nurse consultant at DPH. Rosie is also recently retired from Orange County Health Department where she served as local health director for 14 years. Please welcome Eunice and Rosie to the Accreditation team. We are fortunate to have such experienced, knowledgeable professionals help with this important work.

---

**Accreditation Schedule for FY 2013/FY 2014**

**Upcoming Site Visits**

- **Beaufort County Site Visit**: February 5-7*
- **Brunswick County Site Visit**: February 12-14*
- **Cleveland County Site Visit**: February 19-21*
- **Orange County Site Visit**: March 5-7*
- **Davie County Site Visit**: March 19-21*
- **Burke County Site Visit**: April 30–May 2†

**Official Notifications**

**Official Notification (90 Day Notice) January 1, 2013**
HDSA1 and other materials due by April 1, 2013:
- Hyde County Site Visit (April 9-11, 2013)
- Caldwell County Site Visit (April 9-11, 2013)
- Hoke County Site Visit (April 16-18, 2013)
- Jones County Site Visit (April 16-18, 2013)
- Durham County Site Visit (April 23-25, 2013)
- Cumberland County Site Visit (April 23-25, 2013)

**Official Notification (90 Day Notice) January 1, 2013**
HDSA1 and other materials due by April 1, 2013:
- Dare County Site Visit (May 7-9, 2013)*
- Cabarrus County Site Visit (May 14-16, 2013)*
- Appalachian District Site Visit (May 21-23, 2013)*

**Official Notification (90 Day Notice) March 1, 2013**
HDSA1 and other materials due by June 19, 2013:
- Catawba*
- Lenoir*
- Macon*
- Stanly*

**Official Notification (90 Day Notice) July 1, 2013**
HDSA1 and other materials due by October 1, 2013
- Granville-Vance
- Nash
- Anson

**Official Notification (90 Day Notice) July 1, 2013**
HDSA1 and other materials due by October 10, 2013:
- Harnett*
- Craven*

**Official Notification (90 Day Notice) October 1, 2013**
HDSA1 and other materials due by January 19, 2014:
- Forsyth*
- Madison*
- Northampton*
- Caswell*
- Transylvania*
- Wayne*

*Re-accreditation †Dual NC LHD/PHAB

If you need to know when your health department will be notified and when your materials are due to the accreditation program, please contact **Dorothy Cilenti** at 919-843-5427 or cilenti@email.unc.edu.