Community Health Action Plan 2013

Designed to address Community Health Assessment priorities

County: Rockingham
Partnership, if applicable: Rockingham County Healthy Carolinians Partnership
Period Covered: 2013 – 2017

LOCAL PRIORITY ISSUE
- Priority issue: **Social Determinants - Education**
- Was this issue identified as a priority in your county's most recent CHA? __**X**__ Yes ___ No

LOCAL COMMUNITY OBJECTIVE   Please check one: __**X**__ New   ___ Ongoing (was addressed in previous Action Plan)
- By (year): **2017**
- Objective (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-lined change in health status of population):
    - **Increase the four year cohort (percent of students in a ninth grade cohort that graduate with a regular diploma in four years or less) graduation rate by 5% (76% to 81%) by 2017.**
    - **Decrease the dropout rate by a rate of 1.0 (3.89 to 2.89) by 2017.**
- Original Baseline: **In 2012, the four-year cohort graduation rate in Rockingham County was 76.0% compared to 80.4% in North Carolina. The dropout rate in 2012 in Rockingham County was 3.89, which was higher than North Carolina at 3.01.**
- Date and source of original baseline data: **Public Schools of NC, 2012**
- Updated information (For continuing objective only): **N/A**
- Date and source of updated information: **N/A**

POPULATION(S)
- Describe the local population(s) experiencing disparities related to this local community objective:

    Historically, males have dropped out more frequently than females in North Carolina. In Rockingham County high schools, 5.1% of males dropped out during the 2011/2012 school year compared to 3.8% of females (99 males and 73 females).
- Total number of persons in the local disparity population(s):

    There were 99 males who dropped out of high school during the 2011/2012 school year.
- Number you plan to reach with the interventions in this action plan:

    There were 7,093 children enrolled in Rockingham County Schools (middle and high school) during the 2011/2012 school year. Interventions in this action plan will focus on middle and high school age children both male and female.

HEALTHY NC 2020 FOCUS AREA ADDRESSED
- Check **one** Healthy NC 2020 focus area:

___ Tobacco Use
___ Physical Activity and Nutrition
___ Substance Abuse
___ STDs/Unintended Pregnancy
___ Environmental Health

__**X**__ Social Determinants of Health (Poverty, Education, Housing)
___ Maternal and Infant Health
___ Injury
___ Mental Health
___ Oral Health

___ Infectious Diseases/ Food-Borne Illness
___ Chronic Disease (Diabetes, Colorectal Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease)
___ Cross-cutting (Life Expectancy, Uninsured, Adult Obesity)

- **List HEALTHY NC 2020 Objective**: (List the Healthy NC 2020 objective(s) that align with your local community objective.) (Detailed information can be found at publichealth.nc.gov/hnc2020/ website)

❖ **Increase the four-year high school graduation rate**

RESEARCH REGARDING WHAT HAS WORKED ELSEWHERE*
List the 3-5 evidence-based interventions (proven to effectively address this priority issue) that seem the most suitable for your community and/or target group. *Training and information are available from DPH. Contact your regional consultant about how to access them.

Intervention	Describe the evidence of effectiveness (type of evaluation, outcomes)	Source
Check and Connect	Check and Connect is a dropout prevention program for high school students with learning, emotional, and/or behavioral disabilities. Randomized controlled trials show a sizable decrease in students' dropout rates, and increase in attendance and academic credits earned.	**http://evidencebasedprograms.org/1366-2/check-and-connect**
Mentoring programs that improve graduation rates	Mentoring programs provide adult mentors to guide students through academic and personal challenges. There is strong evidence that mentoring programs improve high school graduation rates. Most types of dropout prevention programs, including mentoring programs, reduce the likelihood of participants dropping out of high school. Implementation quality appears crucial to program effectiveness. Researchers suggest that programs choose willing adult mentors committed to their task, purposefully match students to mentors, and establish regular mentor/student meetings at least weekly. Effective programs can prepare mentors for common obstacles, train them to partner with students, parents, and school staff, and teach them how to advocate for students. Effective mentors build strong relationships with students, and help them with both academic and personal problems	**http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/program/mentoring-programs-improve-graduation-rates**
Career Academics	Career Academics are small learning communities within high schools that focus on specific vocational fields such as health care, finance, technology, communications, or public services to students who voluntarily choose to enroll. Students in danger of dropping out who voluntarily enroll in career academies are more likely to stay in school, maintain better attendance, and earn more credits toward graduation than at-risk students not randomly selected for enrollment. At-risk boys enrolled in career academies appear to earn substantially more than their non-enrolled counterparts in early adulthood, although nearly all students seeking enrollment eventually graduate or earn a GED.	**http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/program/career-academies**

(Insert rows as needed)

WHAT INTERVENTIONS ARE ALREADY ADDRESSING THIS ISSUE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Are any interventions/organizations currently addressing this issue? Yes **X** No___ If so, please list below.

Intervention	Lead Agency	Progress to Date
Reach Out and Read	Rockingham County Partnership for Children (Smart Start)	**This intervention began Dec/Jan 2011/2012. During the first fiscal year the intervention was implemented in seven medical practices in Rockingham County and 765 children were served.**
Gear Up (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs)	Rockingham County Schools	**Gear Up began in NC in 1998 with the mission to support early college preparation and awareness activities for low-income students. Rockingham County Gear Up began 2012. So far the program has served 1,297 students.**
College Advisors	Rockingham County Education Foundation	**The College Advisors program began in 2009 and assists high school students with post-secondary options. Since its inception, this intervention has impacted 16,450 students in Rockingham County.**
1:1 Mobile Initiative	Rockingham County Schools	**The 1:1 Mobile Initiative began in Rockingham County in August 2012. It is a technology project which provides each high school student in the county with a Google Chromebook computer. Approximately 4,300 students received the Chromebooks.**
Rockingham County Head Start	Rockingham County	**The Head Start Program began in Rockingham County in 1966. To be eligible for the program, families must be within the poverty guidelines and complete an application showing proof of birth, shot record, insurance, and income verification. The program currently serves 252 (of which 10% have disabilities) children in 14 classrooms at 11 locations.**
Dolly Parton Imagination Library	Rockingham County Partnership for Children	**Children from birth until their 5th birthday are eligible for this free program. This program began in Sept. 2012 and has served 1435 children as well as an additional 190 children who have graduated from the program. The goal of the program, which sends age appropriate books in the mail each month, is to increase children's access to books to ensure school readiness.**
NC Pre-K	Rockingham County Partnership for Children	**This program places children who are considered at risk, into a high quality preschool**

		environment. **This program has 229 slots available for children up to four years of age. There are 21 classrooms for up to 18 children in each classroom. Classes are in public, private, and Head Start settings and are led by teachers who hold a Birth-Kindergarten teaching license.**
S.O.S	Youth Services	**This program which began over 10 years ago, is an afterschool prevention program designed to reduce conflicts at school and home. The program includes mentoring, tutoring, enrichment, confidence building, etc. There were 87 students served during the 2012/2013 fiscal year.**
Student of Promise	Youth Services	**This program gives high school students the opportunity to become role models for at-risk middle schools students by becoming mentors themselves. There were 41 student volunteers during the 2012/2013 fiscal year.**

(Insert rows as needed)

WHAT RELEVANT COMMUNITY STRENGTHS AND ASSETS MIGHT HELP ADDRESS THIS PRIORITY ISSUE?

Community, neighborhood, and/or demographic group	Individual, civic group, organization, business, facility, etc. connected to this group	How this asset might help
Faith-based Community	Over 200 churches in Rockingham County	The vast amount of churches in Rockingham County can be beneficial in reaching the specified target audience and identifying volunteers to help with interventions outlined in the action plans.
Foundations	Reidsville Area Foundation and Rockingham County Education Foundation	These foundations have a vested interest in education and are a potential funding source for future programs.
Groups focused on reaching parents	Literacy Project, Parent Resource Center, Rockingham County Partnership for Children	These organizations help parents of Hispanic students as well as the student themselves access educational resources.
Programs focused on students	Homebound Program, Rockingham County Student Health Centers, Young Moms Connect: Communities Supporting Young Families, Rockingham County Schools, Youth Services, Rockingham County Partnership for Children and Head Start	The mentioned programs focus on keeping children in school and would serve as an ideal place to stress the importance of an education.
Continuing Education	Rockingham Community College, Goodwill Resource Center	The community college and Goodwill offer programs to teens and adults to further their education

		beyond high school. The college will also offer a new Hospital Simulation program which could increase student interest and enhance training in the medical field.
Community Organizations	Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, 4-H	These programs are creative outlets for children to learn about character building, community service, and different opportunities which could have a positive impact on their education and future.

(Insert rows as needed)

INTERVENTIONS: SETTING, & TIMEFRAME **Each plan will need a minimum of one intervention for each of the three sections below**	COMMUNITY PARTNERS' **Roles and Responsibilities**	PLAN HOW YOU WILL EVALUATE EFFECTIVENESS
INTERVENTIONS SPECIFICALLY TARGETING HEALTH DISPARITIES		
Intervention: **Wise Guys** Intervention: _**X**_ new _**X**_ ongoing __ completed Setting: **All middle schools in Rockingham County and Morehead High School** Start Date **Fall 2011** End Date **Fall 2015** Level of Intervention - change in: _**X**_ Individuals __ Policy &/or Environment	Lead Agency: **Children's Home Society of North Carolina** Role: **Administer Wise Guys Curriculum** Partners: **Rockingham County School System** Role: **Serve as the setting for the Wise Guys curriculum.** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Marketing of the program will be done through community events (booth set up), brochures, and website promotion.**	1. **Quantify what you will do** • Offer Wise Guys Curriculum (12 classes in a session) to male students in the fall and spring semesters to 16 classes throughout the four middle schools and one high school. • Coordinate at least one fundraiser to increase funds for the Wise Guys program • Explore additional settings for the Wise Guys curriculum including the public housing authorities and churches 2. **Expected outcomes** • Wise Guys indirectly increases graduation rates and decreases dropout rates through goal setting and positive decision making skills. • Delay of initial sexual activity or contact • Decrease frequency of sex • Increase correct usage and consistency of condoms
INDIVIDUAL CHANGE INTERVENTIONS		
Intervention: **College Advisors** Intervention: __ new _**X**_ ongoing __ completed Setting: **School**	The lead agency is **Rockingham County Education Foundation** and it will **provide funding for one college advisor in each high school.**	1. **Quantify what you will do** • Make at least 12 classroom presentations to students • Host at least 12 family events within the community

Start Date **2009** End Date **July 2017**	List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **UNC Chapel Hill – Place recent graduates in the high schools to serve as advisors** ❖ **Rockingham County Schools – will host a college advisor in all four high schools** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Flyers, Healthy Carolinians Newsletter, radio, Rockingham County Schools website**	• Make contact with every high school senior • Set up college tours for students at a minimum of six colleges/universities • Coordinate at least one Community College Day for high school students • Coordinate at least three presentations and/or meetings with community organizations informing them of the Carolina College Advising Corps program 2. **Expected outcomes:** • Increase the number of high school students who receive post-secondary education • Increase the number of high schools students who graduate • Increase student and parent knowledge of post-secondary options
INDIVIDUAL CHANGE INTERVENTIONS		
Intervention: **Gear Up** Intervention: _**X**_ new __ ongoing __ completed Setting: **School** Start Date **August 2012** End Date **2019**	The lead agency is **Rockingham County School System** and it will **coordinate and provide funding and staff for the Gear Up Program.** List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **UNC Chapel Hill – coordinate the statewide Gear Up Program** ❖ **Rockingham County Healthy Carolinians Education Workgroup – help coordinate and connect the Rockingham County Gear Up program to community partners** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Brochures, flyers, radio broadcasts, Healthy Carolinians Newsletter**	1. **Quantify what you will do** • Services will be provided to the 12th grade cohort in three high schools and the 7th grade cohort in three middle schools in the first year of the program. A grade level will be added each year • Offer tutoring to three middle schools for six weeks • Coordinate at least two college tours for each cohort served during the school year • Offer one family oriented event per month for the six targeted schools 2. **Expected outcomes:** • Increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education • Increase the high school graduation rate • Decrease the high school dropout rate
Intervention: **Smart Girls**	The lead agency is **Rockingham**	1. **Quantify what you will do**

Intervention: _**X**_ new __ ongoing __ completed Setting: **Middle Schools** Start Date: **Fall 2012** End Date **July 2017**	<u>**County Schools**</u> and it will <u>**administer the Smart Girls curriculum**</u> List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **Rockingham County Partnership for Children – provide staff development for teachers** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Middle School teachers will be given the Smart Girls curriculum/materials to review**	• Classes will be taught weekly for 12 weeks. • Classes will be offered to all 7th and 8th grade girls only at the four middle schools in Rockingham County. 2. **Expected outcomes:** • Smart Girls indirectly increases graduation rates and decreases dropout rates through goal setting and positive decision making skills. • Improved knowledge of sexuality and consequences of sexual activity • Healthier attitudes towards postponing sex and use of contraception. • Increased use of contraception for those participants who reported sexual involvement. • Increased communication with parents about sexuality
Intervention: Parents Matter Intervention: _**X**_ new __ ongoing __ completed Setting: **Community** Start Date **Fall 2012** End Date **July 2017**	The lead agency is **<u>Rockingham County Partnership for Children</u>** and it will **<u>act as the fiscal agent for the Parents Matter Program</u>** List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **Rockingham County Schools – provide staff to implement the Parents Matter program** ❖ **Appalachian State University School of Health and Human Services – provide funding** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Flyers will be posted at childcare centers, elementary and middle schools, the Boys and Girls Club of Eden and YMCAs**	1. **Quantify what you will do** • The six week Parents Matter series will be held a minimum of 3 times per years • Each series will last six week and will be once per week. • A minimum of 15 participants will be recruited to participate for each series. 2. **Expected outcomes:** • Parents Matter indirectly increases graduation rates and decreases dropout rates by opening the communication in a home-setting and giving parents skills to effectively communicate with their child(ren) • The program is designed to help parents overcome these common parent-child communication barriers and enhance parenting skills.
INDIVIDUAL CHANGE INTERVENTIONS		
Intervention: **Develop Mentoring**	The lead agency is **<u>Education</u>**	1. **Quantify what you will do**:

Program	**Workgroup** and it will **explore options to work with partners to establish a countywide mentoring program for middle school children**	• The Education Workgroup will meet bimonthly to discuss and research evidence-based mentoring opportunities, partner opportunities, logistics of coordinating a mentoring program, and available funding opportunities
Intervention: **X** new __ ongoing __ completed Setting: **Community/School** Start Date **Summer 2013** End Date **June 2017**	List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **Retired Teachers Association – provide mentoring to students** ❖ **Rockingham County Schools – provide advice on starting a mentoring program and serve a potential site** ❖ **Rockingham County Community College Retired Teachers Association – provide mentoring to students** ❖ **Rockingham County Education Foundation – possibly provide funds needed to start a mentoring program** ❖ **Reidsville Area Foundation - possibly provide funds needed to start a mentoring program** ❖ **Worksites – provide internship and serve as mentors** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Promote intervention on Rockingham County Department of Public Health website as well as the website of other Education Workgroup members' websites, inform parents of new opportunity for students, and post flyers.**	• Recruit members to participate on the Healthy Carolinians Education Workgroup 2. **Expected outcomes:** • Decreased risky behaviors by at-risk children • Increased graduation rate • Decreased dropout rate • Decreased drug use • Increased positive family interactions
INDIVIDUAL CHANGE INTERVENTIONS		
Intervention: **Develop Tutoring Program** Intervention: **X** new __ ongoing __ completed Setting: **Community/School** Start Date **Summer 2013** End Date **June 2017**	The lead agency is **Education Workgroup** and it will **explore options to work with partners to establish a countywide tutoring program** List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **Rockingham County Schools – help promote program, serve as a location for tutoring, refer students to serve as peer**	3. **Quantify what you will do** • The Education Workgroup will meet bimonthly to discuss and research evidence-based tutoring opportunities, partner opportunities, logistics of coordinating a mentoring program, and available funding opportunities • Recruit members to participate on the Healthy Carolinians Education

	tutors ❖ **Rockingham County Retired Teachers Association – provide tutoring on a volunteer basis** ❖ **Rockingham Community College Retired Educators – provide tutoring on a volunteer basis** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Flyers, phone alerts, parent messages, website promotion to advertise tutoring program**	Workgroup 4. **Expected outcomes:** • Increased graduation rate • Decreased graduation rate
POLICY OR ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE INTERVENTIONS		
Intervention: **1:1 Mobile Initiative** Intervention: ___ new **X** ongoing ___ completed Setting: **Schools** Start Date **August 2012** End Date **July 2017**	The lead agency is **Rockingham County Schools** and it will **administer Google Chrome Books to all high school students.** List other agencies and what they plan to do: ❖ **Reidsville Area Foundation – provided $1,430,000 in funding support for initiative** ❖ **Golden Leaf Foundation – provided $1,000,000 in funding support for initiative** Include how you're marketing the intervention **Press conference, student/parent information sessions**	1. **Quantify what you will do** • Provide a Google Chromebook to all high school students • Evaluate data related to test scores and other non-academic data such as suspension rates and attendance beginning the end of the 2013/2014 school year 2. **Expected outcomes:** • Increase student achievement • Decrease the 'digital equity' gap among students and teachers • Increase teaching and learning environments • Increased graduation rates • Decreased dropout rates
Intervention: **STRIVE (Securing Tomorrow, Rockingham Invests in Values and Education)** Intervention: **X** new ___ ongoing ___ completed Setting: **Countywide** Start Date **January 2013** End Date **2017**	The lead agency is **Rockingham County Partnership for Children and Rockingham County Education Foundation** and it will **create an early childhood literacy comprehensive strategic plan with the mission of: A unified Rockingham County whose communities and organizations collaborate to ensure an overall high quality learning experience from birth through post-secondary education that fully prepares students for sustained**	2. **Quantify what you will do** • Establish a comprehensive campaign that elevates the importance of literacy in the county and improves knowledge of the services and resources available to improve literacy • Create a resource guide of programs and services in the county that support children, youth, and families that would be widely available in print and online

	success in work and in life.	• Enroll 50% of eligible children in Rockingham County in the following year
	List other agencies and what they plan to do:	• Incorporate non-traditional outreach strategies to increase parental involvement and education
	❖ **News & Record and Rockingham County Department of Public Health will collaborate with other group members to create and disseminate a resource handbook.**	• Align services to ensure students meet developmental milestones in order for students to achieve grade level reading by 3rd grade
	❖ **Eden Drug Store will collaborate with other group members to expand the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library**	
	❖ **Rockingham County Partnership for Children will collaborate with group members to develop a plan to increase parent engagement**	**2. Expected outcomes:**
	❖ **Rockingham County Schools will collaborate with other group members to focus on the alignment of birth – 3rd grade and implement literacy initiatives in childcare centers**	• Increased number of children reading at grade level by 3rd grade
		• Increased awareness of services and resources available for literacy and learning
	Include how you're marketing the intervention	• Improve parental involvement
	Rockingham County Education Foundation will collaborate with planning committee members to create a "brand" and handle communication strategies and advocate development of the initiative	• Eventual increase in high school graduation rates and decrease high school dropout rates

(Insert rows as needed)