

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors Meeting
September 29, 2026 – 2:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites, 5400 John Q Hammonds Dr, NW, Concord NC – Carolina Room**

Call to Order	Jen Greene
Approval of Minutes from August Meeting	Jennifer McCracken
Treasurer's/Financial Report	Jennifer McCracken
President's Report	Jen Greene
Executive Director's Report	Patrick Brown
Division of Public Health Director	Dr. Kelly Kimple
Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH.....	Stacie Turpin Saunders
DCFW	Yvonne Copeland

ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATES - from Work Groups

Partner Updates	Patrick Brown
PH Funding and Investments.....	Jen Greene
Workforce Recruitment and Retention.....	Janet Clayton
PH Data and Performance Measures	Wes Gray
Nominations and Bylaws.....	Rod Jenkins
Education and Awards.....	Rachel Willard

Region Reports & District Health Department Reports

Region I	Anna Lippard
Region II.....	David Jenkins
Region III	Rachel Willard
Region IV	Alyssa Harris
Region V.....	Trey Wright
Region VI	Helene Edwards
Region VII.....	Cinnamon Narron
Region VIII.....	Krissy Hoover
Region IX	Ashley Stoop
Region X.....	Joy Brock
District Workgroup.....	Lisa Harrison

Partner Reports

NCAPHA.....	Rod Jenkins
NCPHA	Nina Beech
NACCHO	Lisa Harrison
CETAC	Dolly Clayton
NCIPH	Amy Joy Lanou
ANCBH	Merle Green
NC-SOG	Kirsten Leloudis
NC SOPHE.....	Rose Haddock

Adjourn

**Next Meeting: October 15, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
Durham Co. Health Dept., 414 E Main St, Durham, NC 27701**

**North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors
Business Meeting
August 20, 2026 – 9:30 am
DPH, RTP, Room 1115, 65 Moore Drive, Durham NC & Virtual**

Meeting Called to Order – Jen Greene

President Jen Greene (Appalachian Health District) opened the meeting at 9:30 am and thanked everyone for attending.

Approval of July Minutes – Jennifer McCracken

Minutes from the July meeting were distributed via email. President Greene asked for a motion for approval of the minutes.

Motion: Motion to approve was made by Dr. Rod Jenkins (Durham Co.) and seconded by Lillian Koonth (Davidson Co.). No objections – minutes were approved by consensus.

Treasurer's Report – Jennifer McCracken

The Treasurer's Report was distributed with the packet via email. President Greene asked for a motion for approval of the Treasurer's Report.

Motion: Motion to approve was made by Dr. Rod Jenkins (Durham Co.) and seconded by Marilyn Pearson (Johnston Co.). No objections – Treasurer's Report was approved by consensus.

President's Report – Jen Greene

Jen voiced her appreciation about the care management conversation that occurred at the end of the workgroup meetings the day prior. There are a group of local health directors that are working to continue and support care management conversations (Erin Shoe, Jen Greene, Jennifer McCracken, Lisa Macon-Harrison, Ashley Stoop).

The first state RHTP Advisory Board meeting occurred since the last NCALHD meeting. Jennifer McCracken represented Jen Green at the first meeting. Medicaid regions are moving quickly to complete regional needs assessments, action plans, and preparing to release RFA's and funding projects. Please continue to be involved and engaged in your Medicaid region. Jennifer asked if there were LHD's serving involved in the RHTP work. Several local health directors indicated such. Please continue to put priority to this work.

Jen asked if there were any new or retiring Health Directors in the room. There were none.

Jennifer Yourkavitch is the new Chief of Health Statistics with NC DHHS.

PATCH NC (Perinatal Access to Care and Health NC) Dr. Shannon Dowler , Chris Bishop

Received multiyear funding from the Levine foundation regarding maternity care access. The North Carolina Community Health Foundation is sponsoring this project. Shared maternity care management model divides perinatal and postpartum care among two or more health care professionals. Historically, family physicians provided OB care across geographies. Trying to reinstate this model to enhance care to maternity deserts and low access counties. In 2026 data, there were 18 deserts, 19 low access and 1 moderate access counties. There is an aggressive timeline to ensure early and often prenatal care. Currently working on a billing/coding guide. Eligible entities are rural health centers, local health departments, FQHC;s and FQHC-look alikes in low access counties. There will be money for incentives for early entry into prenatal care as well as funds for EMR upgrades, telehealth, equipment, promotion funding, training, etc. The project will also connect with RHTP to ensure maximization of funding. PATCH is also working with several philanthropies who have expressed interest in funding additional sites. Nurture NC has asked to use community benefit dollars to resource both hubs and spokes pending Medicaid approval. The application is live and due by August 31. Site interviews will be held in mid-September and site selection is anticipated by Sept. 30. Goal for sites to start completing pregnancy visits will be in the 1st quarter of 2027.

State Health Director & Chief Medical Officer - Dr. Larry Greenblatt

Vaccines – The board of pharmacy has issued a directive to retail pharmacies that they can continue to administer routine vaccines. There is a new flu vaccine (mRNA) for people 50 and older. DHHS continues to support vaccine to keep communities healthy. The VFC program has not changed. Today there was an executive order reducing the number of vaccines required. The President does not have authority to enact vaccine policy. North Carolina is not changing vaccine guidance.

THC and intoxicating hemp - HB 328 came up at end of the short sessions – age restrictions for THC and what can be included in THC products. This has not passed and need more time to review. There was a lot of response from the hemp industry. Federal legislation is going into effect this November about intoxicating hemp. There is no state law to address, so it is not enforceable. Therefore, there is no expected change in the current situation. The Cannabis Advisory Council is keeping a close eye on this and recommendations are due to be out later this year.

Jen Green added that NCPHA has been pushing Tobacco21 and concerns about youth tobacco use.

Division of Public Health Director - Dr. Kelly Kimple

Dr. Kimple acknowledged the difficult fiscal landscape, noting reduction in TB funding as well as care management concerns. DPH leadership is trying to get clarity about how DPH can continue to support local public health during these transitions.

North Carolina is seeing a dramatic decrease in cyclosporiasis. Dr. Kimple expressed her appreciation with the ongoing Ebola work, especially monitoring travelers from affected countries. Will continue to update us with guidance changes.

There is a provision in the state budget that DHHS will have to abolish vacant positions across the department. They are awaiting guidance and decisions about how DPH will be impacted. Will ensure they update NCALHD about impacts.

DPH will be moving to ensure space is being used to the fullest extent possible. The team at the Durham location will be moving to another space on the RTP campus. There is a meeting room that can hopefully host NCALHD meetings moving forward.

Lillian mentioned the public health workforce implications of the loss of care management programs in local public health.

Deputy Director/Section Chief, Local and Community Support, DPH - Stacie Turpin Saunders

The Consolidated Agreement for FY28 is going through the review process and will be presented at the NCALHD October meeting. The draft will be sent out to the association a week ahead for review. Feedback will be brought forward and reviewed at the November NCALHD meeting. The Consolidated Agreement vote of support will happen by December 2026.

The end of the year FY26 AA report will be presented in September 2026. There will be a mid-year FY27 report with a deeper dive on the core functions.

AA 575 will be coming out with a revision. There is a new deliverable related to referring to the NC Quitline. The draft is not final yet.

Doug Urland - AA 117 update will be provided at the September NCALHD meeting along with the T-minus plan. There is a CDC site visit for PHIG. There will be a site visit on 8/27 at Granville Vance Health Department. Lastly, Doug announced that he is leaving DPH effective Sept. 22, 2026 and this is his last meeting. He extended his appreciation for the association. Please continue to support Parris and Chelsea. He left us with these words, "always remember that what you do matters."

DCFW - Yvonne Copeland

Vacancy reductions will have a big impact on DCFW. They are waiting for updates on the number of positions. The entire Child Health portfolio will be impacted. This will mean impact to temporary positions and positions.

CMARC AA funding – evaluating AA changes and will be connecting with us in the coming weeks. Due to modifications in the block grant, we over obligated and working with DPH on how we can address this.

Implementation of HR1 is a priority. The administrative cost share begins Oct. 1, 2026 and will impact county budgets. The 2026 appropriations act appropriated 32 positions to help secure SNAP infrastructure. It also outlines methodology for SNAP benefit cost share.

WIC update – the team met with the Workforce Workgroup and are exploring incentives with Nutritionists included. DCFW is working through the exploratory phase of options and will be connecting with regional workforce directors in the regions. Erin Frye Sosnee and Belinda Pettiford will be connecting DCFW to some additional resources as well. DCFW has also talked with OSHR staff and reconnected with them on this issue.

David Howard (Brunswick Co.) shared concerns about how HR1 will affect WIC participation and local county's ability to maintain WIC caseloads. Yvonne will consider that risk and will weigh at national WIC association meetings.

USDA Secretary Rollins visited Mecklenburg Co. WIC program last month (July). She was very impressed by the work that was happening. Special thanks to Mecklenburg County for hosting that visit with very short notice. This was the Secretary's first exposure to a WIC clinic. Yvonne told the group with "You Rock!" Keep doing what you are doing because it matters.

Executive Director's Report – Patrick Brown

Patrick extended his thanks to Doug Urland for all that he has done in local and state Public Health.

Patrick also extended thanks for the care management conversation yesterday. The role of the association is to broker a statewide consistent transfer of CM with health plans is over. The association and formal leadership role are determining how do we navigate the transition and support the workforce. United Healthcare has provided notification in writing. Healthy Blue is supposed to provide this by the end of the month. There is a group of local health directors that are working on model to keep care management local – Jen Green, Jennifer McCracken, Erin Shoe, Lisa Macon-Harrison and Ashley Stoop. More updates from that group are forthcoming. Patrick sent a draft statement and talking points to the group last night. Please review and email Patrick with feedback by first thing Monday morning, particularly feedback on the letter. The officers will review the final statement in conjunction with the core group of local health directors that are looking at other local care management options. This is written from the Collaboration (NCALHD, NCPHA and the Alliance). Will send to NCALHD first then will be sent to NCPHA membership, social media and websites.

Funding strategy sessions will be held in 5 counties; Haywood; Catawba; Johnston; Sampson; Washington Counties.

Meetings will be held late August through October 2026. This will convene local and legislative leaders around funding needs.

Regions 1 & 2: Haywood County – Oct. 12

Regions 3 & 4: Catawba County – Oct. 13

Regions 4 & 7: Johnston County – Sept. 14

Regions 6 & 8: Sampson County – Sept. 9

Region 9 & 10: Washington County – Sept. 24

These sessions will most be held from 10 am – 2 pm, with lunch provided and are in-person only.

Invitations to the first two sessions will go out by the end of this week. Let Patrick know if invitation needs to come from him or if local health directors prefer to extend the invitation. We may be lighter on legislators than we had hoped. However, we can still focus on local county leaders and ensuring the right people are in the room. Copy Patrick and Karen Davis on any invites.

Executive Committee retreat on Sept. 2-3. If your region has agenda items, please send to Patrick, officers or your region rep.

September meeting will be on the Tuesday prior to NCPHA. We are excited about the fall conference. Representative Loftis will join us for the opening session around Solly's law and Tobacco 21. Wednesday evening, Citizens for PH will be meeting and have invited Representative Grant Campbell. If interested in attending, please let Patrick know.

The NCACC legislative priority window is ending. Last time we submitted a broadly state goal for increasing funding for core local public health services. Patrick will include that again and will submit to NCACC.

PH Alliance updates from the board meeting earlier this week – difficult health insurance situation for our staff with a 54% increase from BCBBS. Matt Worgan has been extremely helpful to get staff into a new insurance pool that will be a savings to staff. If there are health plan challenges with your county, please consider linking Matt to your county leadership.

The Alliance will join NC Chamber as a member to be more engaged at the state level with the business community. This will be a good partnership opportunity for us and hopefully a way for local health departments to connect with their chambers of commerce.

Jen Green – slides emailed out regarding TB funding conversation. Team gave us options for consideration and Jen asked for regions to have conversation about this. Spreadsheets forthcoming about health department level impact.

Shout out to Belinda Pettiford and her team about additional funds that will be in AA101 and AA151 – state team is re-directing some funds to local health departments. Thank you for that!

Action Items and Updates – from Workgroups:

Data and performance measures- Scott Harrelson – customer service survey was shared to find ways to collect consistent data

Region Reports & District Health Department Reports:

No reports.

Nominations Committee – Dr. Rod Jenkins – current officers will remain. Rod asked for membership to consider a nomination for Secretary/Treasurer. Please let Rod or another officer know by Sept. 15, 2026. Nominations will be discussed by current officers and present the slate of officers at the October meeting. Will vote on officers in November with installation of officers in December 2026. An email detailing this process will be forthcoming.

Education/Awards – be on the lookout for information about new health director orientation.

Partner Reports:

NCAPHA – Rod Jenkins – no report

NCPHA – Patrick Brown – excited for the conference; rooms are going fast.

NACCHO – Lisa Harrison – no report; Jen encouraged membership to sign up to receive legislative alerts

CETAC – Dolly Clayton – meeting this afternoon; concerned about impact to Social Work workforce

NCIPH – Margaret Nemitz –

Workforce Development Opportunities

- ❖ **Registration is open for our next Culture of Quality Improvement session on October 20**, a great opportunity for folks with new QI responsibilities or people looking to revamp their agency's QI work. We encourage health departments to register with 2-4 people so that participants can work through examples relevant to their agency. Once you attend this session, you'll also be invited to our monthly QI Community Collaborative space, which includes time for peer learning and coaching.
- ❖ **Policy Skill-Building 6- session virtual seminar series.** We have two upcoming fall courses which will focus on local policy engagement and implementation in North Carolina. The first course offering which starts on Tuesdays September 1, 11am – 1pm is full. Due to a higher-than-expected number of folks interested in this Policy learning series, we will offer another course that starts on October 27. Registration will open in September. If you would like to be notified when registration opens, please email Jenni_Detwile@unc.edu.
 - Check out our monthly Policy Forum and our Policy Resources at:
<https://www.ncfoundationalcapabilities.org/initiatives/policy>
- ❖ **NC Public Health Pathways: From August 31-September 14**, [North Carolina Public Health Pathways](#) (NCPHP) invites health departments to submit their 12-week internship opportunities for inclusion in the [Spring 2027 Internship Program](#).
 - NCPHP manages position promotion, application collection and screening, and equips selected candidates with supplemental training and professional development to excel in their new roles. *Please contact the NCPHP team (ncphpathways@unc.edu) with any questions.*

FullScope Learning Lab

- ❖ Make sure to check out the recently posted available anytime trainings:
 - [Your Impact on N.C. Foundational Capabilities](#)
 - [Plain Language in Public Health Communications](#)
- ❖ Working with early career professionals? Don't forget about the [Effective Supervision for Early Career Professionals](#) free and available anytime training.
- ❖ Interested in having a mission-driven onboarding course developed for your agency? Learn Buncombe County Public Health partnered with FullScope Learning Lab at NCIPH to create the [Buncombe County Foundational Public Health Course](#). This course can be customized to other local health departments. Contact Lori Rhew (Lori.Rhew@unc.edu) to learn more.

NC Local Health Department Accreditation

- ❖ **Have you ever been interested in serving as an NCLHDA site visitor? Do you have a staff member or board member who you think would be a good fit? Now is the time to apply!** NCLHDA is actively recruiting peer site visitors to join the team. Check out our website or your upcoming NCALHD newsletter for the application.
- ❖ **Registration is still open for our Bi-Annual Accreditation 101 Training and Dashboard Webinar**, taking place on September 8 and 10. Check out our website or newsletter for information to register! Both trainings are updated to reflect accreditation changes.

Foundational Capabilities Task Force Initiatives

- ❖ **Check out the North Carolina Foundational Capabilities website!** Go to ncfoundationalcapabilities.org for a host of resources and information about our various Foundational Capabilities initiatives.

ANCBH – Merle Greene – annual meeting Sept. 17 in Hillsborough. Stacie Saunders will be the speaker. If interested in attending, please let Merle know.

UNC School of Government – Jen Green plugged a webinar coming up about Uniform Guidance language changes and encouraged attendance. Refer to August 2 email from Kirsten Leloudis.

NC SOPHE – no report

The October meeting location will be changed to the Durham County Health Department– more information to come.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:24 pm.

August 20, 2026
NCALHD Attendance Roster - Health Director Initial by County

	Alamance	Tony LoGiudice	Anna Lippard	Jackson	V
V	Albemarle District	Ashley Stoop	Marilyn Pearson	Johnston	V
BE	Alexander	Billie Walker	Adrian Smith	Jones	V
BE	Anson	Brian Ellerby	Heath Cain	Lee	V
BE	Appalachian District	Jennifer Greene	Pam Brown	Lenoir	V
V	Beaufort	JaNell Octigan	Lena Jones	Lincoln	V
V	Bladen	Teresa Duncan	Kimberly Dills	Macon	
	Brunswick	David Howard	Tammy Cody	Madison	
EM	Buncombe	Ellis Matheson	Nicole Barnes	MTW District	V
V	Burke	Ashley Jarrett, Interim	Kimberly Scott	Mecklenburg	V
V	Cabarrus	Erin Shoe	Angel Callicutt	Montgomery	
V	Caldwell	Anna Martin	Matt Garner, Interim	Moore	V
V	Carteret	Nina Oliver	Angela Manning	Nash	V
V	Caswell	Jennifer Eastwood	Jon Campbell	New Hanover	
BE	Catawba	Jennifer McCracken	Megan Vick	Northampton	V
BE	Chatham	Michael Zelek	Kristen Richmond-Hoover	Onslow	V
BE	Cherokee	David Badger	Dorothy Cilenti, Interim	Orange	V
	Clay	Clarissa Rogers, Interim	Melanie Campen	Pamlico	
	Cleveland	Tiffany Hansen	Carolyn Moser	Pender	V
V	Columbus	Daniel Buck	Janet Clayton	Person	V
SA	Craven	Scott Harrelson	Wes Gray	Pitt	V
V	Cumberland	Jennifer Green	Geoffrey Hiles, Interim	Polk	V
	Dare	Sheila Davies	Tara Aker	Randolph	V
LBK	Davidson	Lillian Koontz	Heather Horne	Richmond	V
V	Davie	Suzanne Wright	Suzanne Jackson	Robeson	V
V	Duplin	Tracey S. Kornegay	Trey Wright	Rockingham	V
BE	Durham	Rodney Jenkins	Alyssa Harris	Rowan	V
V	Edgecombe	Michelle Etheridge	Wanda Robinson	Sampson	V
V	Foothills Health Dist.	Jason Masters	April Snead, Interim	Scotland	
JS	Forsyth	Joshua Swift	Dolly Huffman Clayton	Stanly	
	Franklin	Scott LaVigne	Tammy Martin	Stokes	V
	Gaston	Brittain Kenney	Samantha Ange	Surry	V
	Graham	Angie Knight, Interim	Alison Cochran	Swain	V
V	Granville-Vance District	Lisa Macon-Harrison	Mason Gardner, Interim	Toe River District	
V	Greene	Joy Brock	Elaine Russell	Transylvania	V
	Guilford	Courtney McFadden	Traci Colley	Union	V
V	Halifax	Cheyenna James	Rebecca Kaufman	Wake	
BE	Harnett	Ainsley Johnson	Margaret Brake	Warren	V
V	Haywood	Sarah Banks	Suzanne LeDoyen	Wayne	V
BE	Henderson	David Jenkins	Rachel Willard	Wilkes	
HE	Hoke	Helene Edwards	Cinnamon Narron	Wilson	V
V	Hyde	Melissa Sadler	Jessica Wall	Yadkin	V
BE	Iredell	Brady Freeman	Misty Randolph	Yancey	V

V = Virtual

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
As of August 31, 2026

ASSETS

Bank Accounts (SECU)		
Certificate of Deposit		40,000.00
Checking		462.75
Money Market		10,047.98
Savings		44.31
Total Bank Accounts (SECU)	\$	50,555.04
Bank Accounts (TowneBank)		
Checking		272,398.92
Insured Cash Sweep		361,409.00
Money Market		250,501.65
Total Bank Accounts (TowneBank)	\$	884,309.57
Accounts Receivable		146,553.88
Deposits in Transit		4,510.33
Prepaid Expenses		631.50
Investment in NCPHI		10,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	1,096,560.32

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		56,015.50
Deferred Revenue		26,129.46
Total Liabilities	\$	82,144.96
Equity		
Temporarily Restricted Funds		
Accreditation Fund		502,297.94
Legal Fund		59,886.40
Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$	562,184.34
Unrestricted Net Assets		(78,216.32)
Change in Net Assets		530,447.34
Total Equity	\$	1,014,415.36
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$	1,096,560.32

North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors, Inc.
Statement of Activities - Budget vs Actual
July - August, 2026

	Actual	Budget	Amt over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue				
Accreditation Revenue	413,660.00	413,660.00	0.00	100.00%
Grant Revenue	53,783.44	462,595.46	(408,812.02)	11.63%
Interest/Dividend Income	2,136.84	15,000.00	(12,863.16)	14.25%
Membership Revenue				
NACCHO Rebate	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00%
NCALHD Dues	136,656.79	136,656.90	(0.11)	100.00%
Total Membership Revenue	\$ 136,656.79	\$ 139,656.90	\$ (3,000.11)	97.85%
Travel Reimbursements	715.33	0.00	715.33	
Total Revenue	\$ 606,952.40	\$ 1,030,912.36	\$ (424,675.29)	58.88%
Expenses				
Accreditation Expense	0.00	413,660.00	(413,660.00)	0.00%
Administrative Services	12,500.00	75,000.00	(62,500.00)	16.67%
Awards	0.00	750.00	(750.00)	0.00%
Bank Charges	2.00	12.00	(10.00)	16.67%
Education & Resources	0.00	1,200.00	(1,200.00)	0.00%
Licenses & Filing Fees	0.00	1,600.00	(1,600.00)	0.00%
Marketing & Sponsorships	0.00	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%
Meetings & Travel	2,414.50	25,000.00	(22,585.50)	9.66%
Postage	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	0.00%
Professional Services				
Accounting Fees	731.25	6,000.00	(5,268.75)	12.19%
Consulting Fees	46,553.75	452,234.00	(405,680.25)	10.29%
Total Professional Services	\$ 47,285.00	\$ 458,234.00	\$ (410,949.00)	10.32%
Technology & Website	14,303.56	50,000.00	(35,696.44)	28.61%
Total Expenses	\$ 76,505.06	\$ 1,026,056.00	\$ (948,350.94)	7.46%
Change in Net Assets	\$ 530,447.34	\$ 4,856.36	\$ 523,675.65	10922.74%