

Health Department Work in 2017

It seems that what is old is new again! Benjamin Franklin once famously stated that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Yes, Ben was right and for a lot of reasons!

A recent study by the Trust for America's Health found an investment of \$10 per person per year in Public Health spending to increase physical activity, nutrition, and prevent smoking could save the country more than \$16 billion annually within five years. This is a return of \$5.60 for every \$1! Prevention of disease and illness helps everyone; so with funding being hard to get these days we try to use our funds wisely and to help as many residents as possible!

During 2017, the Caroline County Health Department tried to find no cost ways to partner with existing health services and connect residents with health care options. We also earned private grants and accepted fundraising activities.

Here are some examples of Caroline County Health Department's work in 2017:

- Blue Dress Run operated by the North Caroline High School Senior Class with \$2,000 raised for our Behavioral Health Clinic.
- CCHD obtained \$30,000 from the Rural Maryland Council in October 2017 to Educate Prescribers on the dangers of using Opioids.
- \$100,000 Grant from CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield in November 2017 was earned to fund a new and innovative Tele-Medicine program.
- The Caroline Foundation, Inc, awarded \$80,000 to Behavioral Health to recruit Doctors Services, \$8,500 was awarded to Medical Adult Day Care to help low income patients & families pay for needed services.
- No Cost Partnerships created with University of Maryland and

the Crisfield Clinic in Somerset County will bring TeleMedicine to Caroline County.

- No Cost Partnership were created to bring Doctors services through Connections in Delaware, to improve services/ ensure providers.
- No cost Agreements for Sharing OverDose Cases with EMS and hospitals coupled with existing Prevention and Treatment services.

I hope our programs and services helped all residents in 2017. Please visit our web site for more information at <https://www.carolinehd.org>.

More improvements to come in 2018!

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