

Summer 2024 Edition

THE COMMUNITY CUE

OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM NEWSLETTER



MECKLENBURG COUNTY
North Carolina

Public Health



Upcoming Events & Trainings

August 6, 2024

National Night Out

6:00PM-8:00PM

Various Locations

[Click here for more information.](#)

August 10, 2024

**The C. W. Williams 10th Annual Back to School
Community Health Fair**

10:00AM-2:00PM

The C.W. Williams Community Health Center

3333 Wilkinson Blvd.

Charlotte, NC 28208

[Click here for more information.](#)

August 17 -18, 2024

2024 Charlotte PRIDE Festival & Parade

12:00PM-11:00PM

Uptown Charlotte

[Click here for more information.](#)

September 28, 2024

Hispanic Heritage Festival of the Carolinas

3:00PM-10:00PM

Truist Field

324 South Mint Street

Charlotte, NC 28202 USA

[Click here for more information.](#)

MAKING HEALTH EQUITABLE

Our Community Resource Team reaches residents throughout the County to promote the 40 programs Mecklenburg County Public Health (MCPH) offers across the five divisions. To advance health equity in Mecklenburg County, these programs and services protect marginalized populations within the County's priority population areas. By providing educational workshops, trainings and outreach, the MCPH Community Engagement program supports the Department's health equity mission by connecting County residents with the public health programs and services they need.

Community Engagement is a recently restructured program under the Office of Health Equity at MCPH. This program is staffed by our Community Resource Team of Public Health Educators who serve as liaisons by connecting community members to MCPH programs, initiatives, and services in order to advance health equity throughout the County by reducing health disparities in our priority populations.

HEALTH OBSERVANCES

Here are some important health observances for the months of July-September!

Click the buttons for tips and resources!

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month (July)

shorturl.at/dlnvL

National Immunization Awareness Month (August)

shorturl.at/nsZ79

National Breastfeeding Month (August)

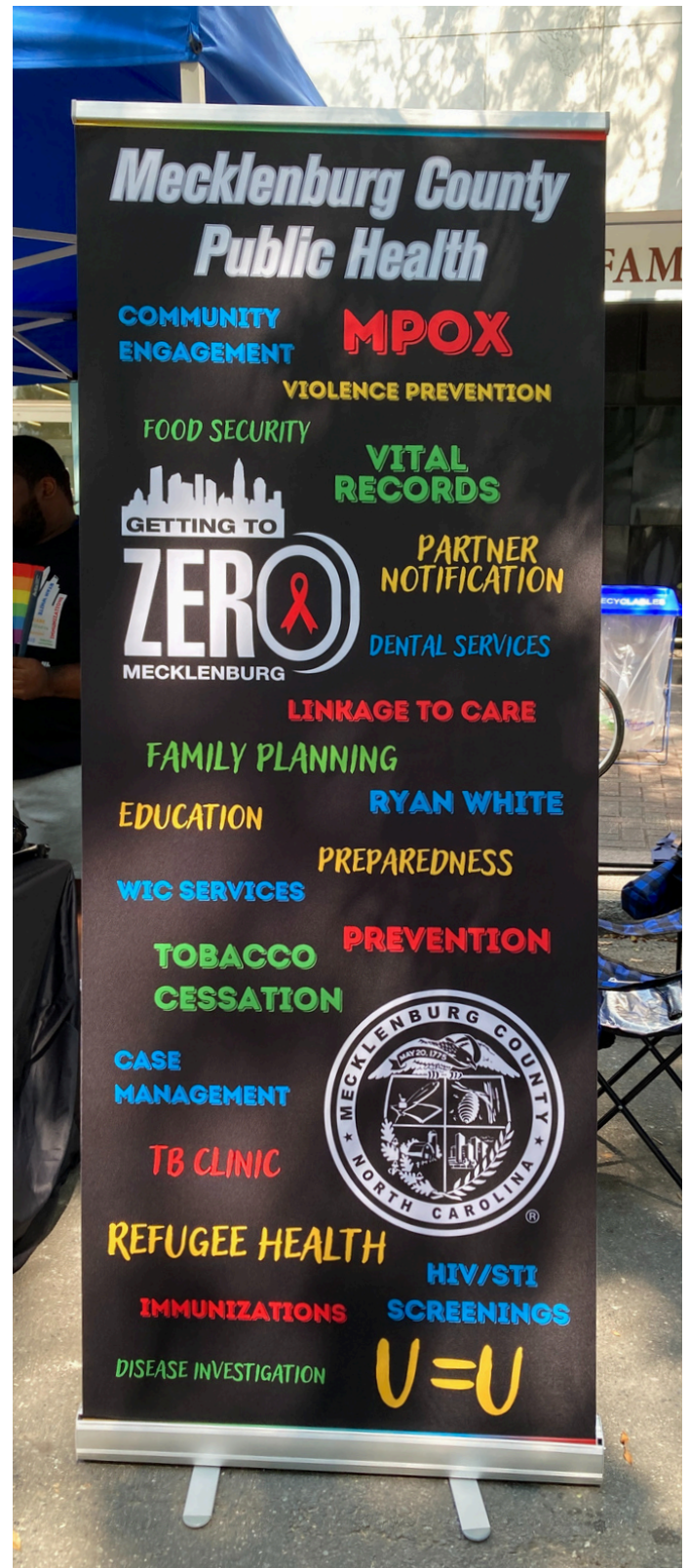
shorturl.at/LQZ13

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month (September)

shorturl.at/jpCP8

Healthy Aging Month (September)

shorturl.at/GOYft



PROGRAM RECAP



April:

National Public Health Week (NPHW) was celebrated during April 1-7, 2024. This year's theme was Protecting, Connecting, and Thriving. During each day of NPHW, the American Public Health Association focuses on a public health topic. MCPH's Community Engagement Team spotlighted various program activities and educational awareness across divisions within our organization. Activities included Gun Lock Distribution, Electric Vehicle Try-and-Drive Event, Public Health Informatics Education Sessions, Edible Landscape Build, Rapid HIV/Hep C Testing, and Hands-Only CPR Lunch & Learn.



On April 24th, Mecklenburg County Public Health in collaboration with Out Teach constructed an outdoor learning station for Metro School. The project included 40+ volunteers from multiple organizations. Read the article and watch a short video about the visit at <https://shorturl.at/3gVSk>.



May:

Our Community Engagement Public Health Educators and Health Equity Fellow completed their Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification through Central Piedmont Community College. Our team serves as liaisons by connecting community members to MCPH programs, services, and initiatives. To learn more about CHWs and the MCPH Community Health Worker Initiative, visit <https://shorturl.at/qNGTK>.

In celebration of Women's Health Month, the Community Engagement Team hosted an educational session that highlighted women's health issues and encouraged women of all ages to prioritize their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Our speakers presented about MCPH Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP), birth control methods, mental health ReSET tools.



PROGRAM RECAP

June:

On Friday, June 7th, the Community Engagement Team hosted the Office of Health Equity's inaugural "Community Engagement Roadhouse Roundup"! With over 50 participants in attendance, this event included amazing speakers and engagement team professionals from a host of Mecklenburg County programs, services and initiatives. The purpose of this event was to equip participants with tools to better understand and appreciate the role(s) and value(s) of internal and external stakeholders, increase collaboration and leverage resources, and deepen knowledge and understanding of professional development and service-learning opportunities. The Roundup served as a great foundation to sharing engagement best practices, ideas on activities, uplifting each other's work, and finding ways to collaborate.

The Community Resource Team focused on unique and innovative approaches to engage communities and assured our audience that learning was not only going to be informative, but also FUN! What an experience! Hold on to your saddle for the next phase and showdown as we continue to support health equity through community engagement.

In observance of Men's Health Month, on June 20th, the Community Engagement Program in partnership with Oak Street Health hosted an informative, resource-rich, and interactive session to raise awareness of men's health issues and to encourage proactive approaches like making healthy living decisions and seeking early detection and treatment. The event consisted of blood pressure screenings, panel discussion, testimonials, engagement activities and a comprehensive health resource table.



FY24 DATA REPORT

The Community Engagement program had a powerful presence in the community this year, participating in 115 community engagement events and 62 outreach/volunteer events and reaching more than 32,500 people. Take a look at our Community Engagement Program data and impact report from July 2023 - June 2024 Fiscal Year.



FY24 Community Engagement Program Data Report At a Glance

Community Engagement Program | Office of Health Equity | Mecklenburg County Public Health
CE@MeckNC.gov | (980) 314-9675 | Health.MeckNC.gov

CDC REACH GRANT LIFESTYLE SURVEY

Mecklenburg County Public Health is collecting information from the community about health-related lifestyle preferences. You can participate and make your voice heard by completing the Lifestyle Preferences Survey.

Respondents must be 18 years of age or older and live in one of the following counties: Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Catawba, Gaston, Rowan, or Union County.

Responses are anonymous and will help inform future community health initiatives. This survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. If you have any questions, contact the REACH project coordinator at Allison.Nelson@mecknc.gov or the REACH project evaluator at Caitlan.Webster@CabarrusHealth.org

[Survey Link \(English\)](#)



[Survey Link \(Spanish\)](#)



STAY CONNECTED

**Interested in educational and training classes?
Click below for more information.**

[Thereasea C. Elder Community Health
Leadership Academy](#)



**Want to know more about our organization and
program?**

[Mecklenburg County Public Health Website
Community Engagement](#)



**Need MCPH support at an upcoming community
event?**

Click [HERE](#) or email CE@MeckNC.gov if you would like to be added to our
Community Engagement listserv!