



Partnership for a Healthy Durham

What is the Partnership for a Healthy Durham?

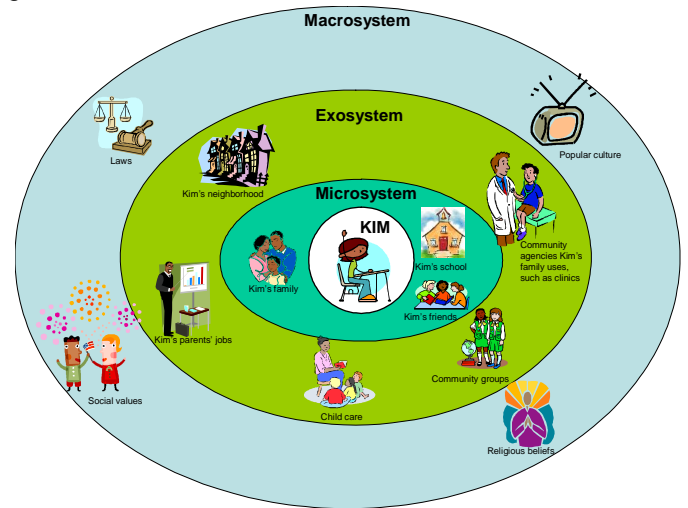
The Partnership for a Healthy Durham is a **coalition** of local agencies and communities, with the goal of collaboratively improving the physical, mental, and social health and well-being of Durham's residents.

Why a coalition?

Do you ever feel like the issues you address are too big and overwhelming for you and your program alone? A coalition brings together individuals and group with similar goals, who agree to work together, to tackle the things that no individual or one program will solve.

The benefits of coming together in a coalition are many, and include*:

- Demonstrating and developing community support for issues – building **critical mass**
- **Maximizing** the power of individuals and groups through *collective action*
- **Networking** opportunities – share your work and interests, identify duplication of efforts or opportunities to collaborate, and share information and knowledge
- Ability to attack the **larger, systemic, environmental, or policy influences** around your issue without carrying the sole responsibility for this level of intervention
- **Share efforts** such as research or public outreach
- **Fundraising** – many institutions that give grants want to see a comprehensive approach involving multiple agencies



What does the Partnership do?

The Partnership has eight health objectives for Durham.

A committee has formed around each objective and created an action plan, which they are implementing (action plans are available at the Partnership's website – www.healthydurham.org). In addition, the Partnership gathers research data on the health of Durham residents for annual reports.

The Partnership's eight health objectives are:

1. Access to healthcare
2. Adolescent pregnancy prevention
3. Prevention and treatment of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases
4. Infant mortality prevention
5. Injury prevention
6. Access to mental healthcare
7. Obesity and chronic disease prevention
8. Substance abuse treatment and prevention

How did the Partnership start?

The Partnership is the certified **Healthy Carolinians** program for Durham County. Healthy Carolinians is North Carolina's statewide network of partnerships that address health and safety issues at the community level. They created a set of health promotion objectives for 2010 (similar to the nationwide "Healthy People 2010" goals) that form the agenda for local programs. An organization called Durham Health Partners previously coordinated the Healthy Carolinians program in Durham County; they handed it over to the Durham County Health Department in 2004.

At the same time, Durham's Board of County Commissioners and City Council together launched a community-wide "**Results-Based Accountability**" (RBA) or *Imagine Durham* initiative, which was designed to strategically improve the quality of life of the community. They created nine priority areas for

* Butterfoss FD, Whitt MD. 2003. *Community Health Education Methods: A Practical Guide*. Boston: Jones & Bartlett.

the community, of which “All of Durham’s citizens are healthy” is one. The RBA program seeks to create and measure positive, accountable change through community report cards. The RBA health workgroup joined forces with the Healthy Carolinians initiative that was forming within the Health Department, and created the **Partnership for a Healthy Durham**.

Who is the Partnership?

The Partnership enjoys the active participation of over 60 local agencies and 175 individual members. Some of the organizations represented include:

Alliance of AIDS Services - Carolina	Durham Coalition on Alcohol & Drug Dependency	NC Health Care for All
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NC	Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau	NC Institute of Medicine
CAARE	Durham County Government	Partners in Caring
Camp Shining Stars	Durham Fitness & Nutrition Council	PAC 4
Child Care Service Association	Durham Parks and Recreation	People Designs, Inc.
Community Health Coalition	Durham Parent Teacher Association	Piedmont HIV Health Care Consortium
Cooperative Extension	Durham Partnership for Children	Planned Parenthood
Council for Senior Citizens	Durham Police Department	Project Access Durham County
Criminal Justice Resource Center	Durham Public Schools	Project Graduation
Durham County Health Department	Durham Regional Hospital	Project STYLE
Durham Department of Social Services	Durham Rescue Mission	Research Triangle Institute
Duke AIDS Research & Treatment Center	Durham TRY	SafeKids Durham
Duke Center for Child and Family Policy	El Centro Hispano	SEEDS
Duke Clinical Research Institute	First Calvary Baptist Church	Senior PHARMAssist
Duke Diet and Fitness	Fitness Forward	Sheriffs Office
Duke Division of Community Health	Food Bank of Central NC	Southern Anti-Racism Network
Duke Family Medicine	Healthcare for All NC	Telecare Corporation
Duke Health System - Community Relations	Inter-Faith Food Shuttle	The Durham Center
Duke Health Inequalities Program	John Avery Boys and Girls Clubs	Threshold Clubhouse
Duke Immigrant Health Program	Latino Community Credit Union	Triangle Empowerment Center
Duke Trauma Center	Lincoln Community Health Center	Triangle United Way
Durham Public Works Department	Love & Respect	TROSA
Durham CAN	M-Powerhouse	UNC Medicine
Durham Center Access	NAMI Durham	UNC School of Public Health
Durham City Government	NC Central University	UNC School of Social Work
		Urban Ministries of Durham

What is the structure of the Partnership?

Most committees meet monthly, and they each determine their own action plan, meeting schedule, leadership, and activities. The entire Partnership is invited to a lunchtime meeting quarterly, which is an opportunity for networking, committee updates, and learning about community issues.

The current Steering Committee is:

Partnership Chair – *Sharon Elliot-Bynum*, CAARE and Community Health Coalition

Partnership Vice-Chair – *David Reese*, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle

Partnership Coordinator – *Mel Downey-Piper*, Durham County Health Department

Results-Based Accountability Co-Chair – *Gayle Harris*, Durham County Health Department

Results-Based Accountability Co-Chair – *MaryAnn Black*, Duke Health System Community Relations

Chairs of the committees:

Access to Healthcare – *Gina Upchurch*, Senior PHARMAssist; *Amanda McMillan*, Duke Clinical Research Institute

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention – *Annette Carrington and Monica Johnson*, Health Department

HIV/STDs – *Trish Bartlett*, Duke; *Danielle Gary*, Alliance of AIDS Services - Carolinas

Infant Mortality – *Jessica Simo*, Durham Community Health Network; *Shaun Evans*, Lay Health Advisor

Injury Prevention – *Terry Smith*, Durham Regional & M-Power House; *Kristen Sparks*, Durham Tech

Mental Health – *Kimberly Monroe*, Duke University Health System

Obesity & Chronic Illness – *David Reese*, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle; *Gwen Murphy*, Duke Division of Community Health

Substance Abuse – *Michele Burgess*, Duke University Health System; *Pat Blue*, Duke Family Medicine

Can I join the Partnership?

YES! We welcome everyone’s participation.

How do I become involved, or what if I have other questions?

Contact the Coordinator of the Partnership, Mel Downey-Piper at mpiper@durhamcountync.gov or (919) 560-7833. Additional information on the Partnership is available at www.healthydurham.org.