BURKE COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH

QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (BOARD OF HEALTH)

REPORTING PERIOD:
JULY 1ST - SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2025

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

- Finalized 2025 Burke County Community Health Assessment
- Epi Team Launched and received State Training
- Welcomed 4 new members to our team
- Between July 1 and September 30, 2025, WIC staff completed 233 new applications and recorded 2,310 kept appointments
- The entire team completed all required FEMA ICS trainings, including ICS 100, 200, 700, 800, 120, and 2200.
- Across Women's Health, Primary Care, General Clinic, Communicable Disease, and Child Health programs, staff served a total of 599 patients.
- Abstracts were accepted to: NCPHA, APHA, and a paper published to the Journal of Appalachian Health.
- From July through September, 174 septic applications were received—51 in July, 51 in August, and 72 in September. A total of 60 septic permits and 15 well permits were issued

It is my pleasure to submit this update on the activities of Burke County Public Health for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2025–2026.

HEALTH EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Health Education team successfully completed the 2025 Burke County Community Health Assessment, a comprehensive process that engaged community members and partners in identifying key health priorities for the county. Staff have strengthened their professional development by attending several trainings, including sessions on new legislative requirements for the Local Review Team and a Public Information Officer Training to enhance communication and outreach capacity.

In addition to assessment and training efforts, the team maintained strong community engagement through participation in local events such as the Freedom High School Health Fair and the Burke United Christian Ministries Point In Time Count, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to promoting public health awareness, collaboration, and accessibility across Burke County.

CLINIC SERVICES

Between July and September 2025, Burke County Public Health's clinical services provided a wide range of essential care and preventive health services to the community.

Laboratory testing remained robust, with 225 STI panels, 342 HIV/Syphilis tests, 301 hemoglobin screenings, and 210 glucose tests completed. Case management programs also remained active, with CMHRP maintaining steady referrals and caseloads each month, supporting multiple client graduations. Meanwhile, CMARC continued to serve a high volume of clients, achieving strong referral and graduation numbers across the quarter, and added a social worker to its team.

The department also hosted a successful Immunization Clinic on September 17th, serving 40 students, and continues to expand preventive outreach with Flu Clinics scheduled for October 17th, 24th, 31st, and November 7th. Across Women's Health, Primary Care, General Clinic, Communicable Disease, and Child Health programs, staff served a total of 599 patients. Additionally, 29 patients completed the satisfaction survey, providing valuable feedback to help guide continued quality improvement in clinical services.

The Epi Team successfully launched its kickoff activities for the year, laying the groundwork for enhanced disease surveillance and emergency preparedness. We also welcomed two new members to our team in the clinic area.

WIC

From July through August 2025, the Burke County WIC Program maintained strong performance, averaging 104% of its assigned caseload and serving the highest number of participants since before the COVID-19 waiver period. During this time, the program's exclusive breastfeeding rate averaged 20.4%. Between July 1 and September 30, 2025, staff completed 233 new applications and recorded 2,310 kept appointments. In June, WIC served 2,330 participants (104.77% of the assigned caseload of 2,224), which increased to 2,374 participants in July (104.35%) and 2,362 participants in August (103.82%) following the start of the new state fiscal year and a caseload increase to 2,275.

In August, the program also introduced an additional option for participants to complete low-risk nutrition education through the online platform WICHealth.org. This new resource enhances accessibility by allowing participants to complete lessons at their convenience, providing greater flexibility for families with busy schedules.

The WIC breastfeeding peer counselors have made 135 contacts with families from July to September. Choua, designed breastfeeding expert, has provided latching support as well as other breastfeeding services to 21 families who struggled with breastfeeding during the last 3 months.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Burke County Public Health's Environmental Health Division maintained steady activity throughout the quarter, supporting both residential and commercial public health safety. From July through September, 174 septic applications were received—51 in July, 51 in August, and 72 in September. A total of 60 septic permits and 15 well permits were issued, with only one application turned down. The team also completed 54 operation permits and installations and collected 14 water samples to ensure ongoing environmental safety and compliance.

Within the Food and Lodging program, 35% of required inspections have been completed to date. Additionally, Environmental Health staff conducted 11 new plan reviews for upcoming food service facilities, with seven already permitted and the remaining four pending final readiness from the owners. These efforts reflect the division's continued commitment to safeguarding water quality, sanitation, and food safety across Burke County.

Lastly, in Environmental Health, we onboarded a Registered Environmental Health Specialist who is authorized in multiple areas.

LEADERSHIP

Burke County Public Health's leadership and staff demonstrated strong commitment to professional growth and organizational excellence this quarter. Two staff members were recognized with awards at the North Carolina Public Health Association Conference, while two others represented the department by delivering oral presentations, showcasing the high quality work being done locally and a paper was published to the Journal of Appalachian Health.

Leadership and supervisory staff further advanced their skills by completing the Lean 300 training, strengthening the department's focus on efficiency and continuous improvement. The agency also participated in a statewide Emergency Operations Center (EOC) drill, enhancing preparedness and coordination for public health emergencies

ADMINISTRATION

In July, Burke County Public Health hosted its annual All-Staff Training Day, which included sessions on workplace violence prevention, workforce engagement, bloodborne pathogens, HIPAA compliance, and updates on progress toward the department's strategic plan, reinforcing a culture of safety, collaboration, and accountability across all programs.

The entire team completed all required FEMA ICS trainings, including ICS 100, 200, 700, 800, 120, and 2200. Several leadership personnel also completed ICS 300 training off-site. In addition, staff attended a week-long preparedness training in Statesville in collaboration with North Carolina Emergency Management.

As always, we continue to manage our finances responsibly. A detailed financial report is attached as an appendix to this narrative. The top portion includes our ongoing programs, while the lower section outlines one-time funding.

Thank you for your continued support and guidance as we serve the residents of Burke County.

Respectfully Submitted,



Danny F. Scalise II, MBA, MPH, CPH, FACHE, FRSPH
Public Health Director

FOR 2026 01 JOURNAL DETAIL 2026 1 TO 2026 12						
ORIGINAL APPROP		REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMB RANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	% USED
50000	ADMINISTRATION	1,502,238.67	267,399.16	149,696.67	1,085,142.84	27.80%
50005	BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELING	8,296.00	1,618.68	0	6,677.32	19.50%
50006	CMHRP	299,672.00	60,750.97	0	238,921.03	20.30%
50010	MATERNAL HEALTH	572,823.00	113,341.61	97,222.62	362,258.77	36.80%
50011	FAMILY PLANNING	321,415.00	71,896.85	1,500.00	248,018.15	22.80%
50012	CHILD HEALTH	57,345.00	11,108.00	0	46,237.00	19.40%
50013	CMARC	346,873.00	68,221.28	0	278,651.72	19.70%
50014	WIC	670,861.00	136,677.33	0	534,183.67	20.40%
50015	IAP IMMUNIZATIONS	197,715.00	41,373.32	13,022.75	143,318.93	27.50%
50016	PRIMARY CARE CLINIC	156,168.00	23,950.60	77,291.00	54,926.40	64.80%
50032	COMMUNICABLE DISEASE	121,289.00	14,023.77	0	107,265.23	11.60%
50033	AIDS CONTROL	132,168.00	25,284.48	18,656.50	88,227.02	33.20%
50034	TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM	68,258.00	6,151.20	0	62,106.80	9.00%
50036	HEALTH PROMOTION	170,681.00	35,430.72	0	135,250.28	20.80%
50041	PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS	95,310.00	19,570.40	0	75,739.60	20.50%
50060	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	940,205.00	181,405.68	0	758,799.32	19.30%
	Grant Total	5,661,317.67	1,078,204.05	357,389.54	4,225,724.08	25.40%
		REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMB RANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	
569117	WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	145,315.00	0	0	145,315.00	Expires Fall 2027
569122	HURRICANE HELENE ESSENTAIL FUNCTIONS	849,691.00	0	0	849,691.00	Expires 2030