

June 2010

Southeast RCAP Board of
Directors Meeting

Progress in North Carolina

NCRCAP: A Contractor for Southeast
Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc.



NCRCAP Motivates Communities Across North Carolina to Replicate Lay Health Advisor Programs.

Regional Office:

145 W. Campbell Ave, SW
PO Box 2826 Roanoke, VA 24001
Tel: (540) 345-1184
Fax: (540) 342-2932
Email: sercap@sercap.org

North Carolina Office:

P.O. Box 941
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Tel: (919) 542-7227
Fax: (919) 542-2329
Email: nrcap@nrcap.org
Website: www.nrcap.org

Rich Holder
Community Resource Coordinator
holder@nrcap.org

Linda King
Office Manager
king@nrcap.org

Peter Kittany
Executive Director
kittany@nrcap.org

Marcia Perritt
Projects Manager
healthyhomes@nrcap.org

Margaret Wurth
Outreach Coordinator
wurth@nrcap.org

Marshall Yandle
Community Resource Coordinator
yandle@nrcap.org

Statistics in North Carolina

USDA Technitrain
8 projects
1 workshop

OCS
4 projects
1 workshop

EPA Wastewater
1 project

EPA Drinking Water
1 project

On Friday May 7, 2010, Marcia Perritt and Margaret Wurth, NCRCAP's Technical Assistance Providers and Healthy Homes for All Program staff, facilitated a presentation for 70 public health nurses at a conference in Chapel Hill entitled *Environmental Considerations in Nursing Practice*. The purpose of the conference was to explore ways for nurses to join efforts at the national, state, and local levels to promote healthier environments for families. Marcia and Margaret presented alongside leading researchers and policymakers in the arena of environmental health, including Mary Jean Brown, Chief of the Lead Poisoning Prevention branch of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Marcia and Margaret explained the significance of childhood lead exposure in Chatham County due to the prevalence of old and deteriorated housing, the language and cultural barriers that isolate the local Latino population, and the consistently high rates of elevated blood lead levels in Chatham County relative to the statewide rates. The presentation also described the evolution of Healthy Homes for All to address this critical environmental health issue in the Chatham County and discussed the development of NCRCAP's lay health advisor program and the tremendous growth of the program during the pilot year of the lay health advisor approach. Marcia and Margaret concluded by encouraging the audience to collaborate with community-based groups in their areas to ensure the healthy development of children. "Our goal was to share our process of developing a lay health advisor program in Chatham County, and we were delighted that members of the audience were interested in replicating our outreach model in other communities across the state," says Wurth. NCRCAP looks forward to collaborating with new partners to replicate the Healthy Homes for All Program throughout North Carolina.

Hollister Awarded \$40,000 Grant

NCRCAP TAP Marshall Yandle was delighted to learn that the Meadows Sewer District was awarded a \$40,000 Planning Grant from the NC Rural Center on April 28th. With the help of matching funds from Hollister R.E.A.C.H. and the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, a Preliminary Engineering Report and Soil Analysis will be conducted to design a series of onsite decentralized cluster systems in the Hollister community.