Center for Healthy Communities

The Center for Healthy Communities (CHC) is an integrating structure designed to contribute positively and measurably to the community through university and community collaboration. Founded in 2013, the mission of the CHC is to foster collaborations that address community-identified issues of interest to improve the health and well-being of communities in southeastern North Carolina. The CHC connects faculty and students with community agencies to provide the following services:

1. Community Collaborative Support – Development and Organizational Backbone functions: The CHC provides the six essential functions of a backbone organization in support of collective impact. Currently, the CHC serves as the backbone organization for the Southeastern North Carolina Regional Health Collaborative.

2. Community Health and Human Services Assessment and Program Evaluation: County Community Health Assessments and Health Program Evaluations.

3. Health and Human Services Resources: Community Platform - ENGAGE NC, Technical Assistance, Grant Writing.

4. Training and Continuing Education: The CHC houses the North Carolina Public Health Training Center. The training center provides training programs for the existing public health workforce as well as provides internship opportunities for public health students. The CHC also participates in the CDC Public Health Training Associate Program.

5. Applied Scholarship: Community-Based Participatory Research Teams and the Community-Engaged Research Fellows Program.

Click here to meet the Center for Healthy Communities Team.

Center for Clinical Research Workforce Development

The Center for Clinical Research Workforce Development was formed by faculty from the Math and Statistics Department and the Clinical Research Program, in partnership with the NC Biotechnology Center Southeastern Office, and the NC Coast Clinical Research Initiative responding to a grant announcement from Duke Energy for a workforce development program.

The team was successful, and UNCW was awarded the grant to strengthen workforce development for the local clinical research industry. The grant will be used, in collaboration with UNCW funds, to develop the center and create educational programs and services in the area of biostatistics, statistical programming and clinical operations. The general objectives are as follows:
1. Continuing Education: Develop clinical education opportunities for industry employees, determined by industry input, in biostatistics, statistical programming and clinical operations, such as workshops and seminars driven by demand and industry needs; short courses designed to fill skills gaps and cover new developments in methodology and/or FDA guidance; and credit-bearing courses and formal certificate programs in skill areas of need, as determined by industry.

2. Industry Experience for Students: Generate learning opportunities to better prepare UNCW students for employment in the clinical research industry. In addition to potential participation in the activities listed above, students can expect modification of current degree programs to provide coursework and field work more directly related to job skills and a fellowship program to provide support in the field for advanced applied learning projects, both in the institute and in the field.

3. Industry-Specific Workforce Enhancements: Initiate formal support programs to serve, in a more targeted way, the specialized needs of local industry partners.

Center coordinators are appointed by the dean and report to the assistant dean for community engagement.