"Together We Make A Difference"

Whether it’s providing access to high-quality health care, ensuring safe and affordable recreational activities, helping parents find quality child care, keeping the food on our shelves safe and infectious diseases in check, advocating for health policy or exploring new frontiers of public health research... our commitment is to facilitate the development and maintenance of the conditions necessary for all of humanity to live healthier, more prosperous, and more productive lives.

The University of North Carolina Wilmington has made a strategic investment to address health preparation and services in southeastern North Carolina by establishing the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS). CHHS was created to provide UNCW with a new mechanism to link and focus its health related research, professional continuing education, health knowledge dissemination, and application.

Approved by the UNCW Board of Trustees and the UNC Board of Governors in 2008, CHHS became a reality on July 1, 2010. CHHS is currently home to three professional schools: School of Health and Applied Human Sciences, School of Nursing, and School of Social Work. Our focus is to effectively address health and quality of life issues by empowering underserved communities and vulnerable populations, eliminating health disparities, and improving acute and chronic health outcomes. CHHS is committed to the development of academically distinct programs of study that prepare students for the complexities of promoting wellness and treating illness, health-related interventions, dissemination of outstanding transdisciplinary applied research that advances both the science and practice of health and human services, and the establishment of effective partnerships, outreach, and service activities to help build healthier communities while developing and strengthening the health and human services workforce.

The faculty, staff, and students in CHHS embrace an interprofessional collaborative approach to enhancing the health and quality of life of individuals, families, and communities through prevention, health promotion and maintenance, and the restoration of physical, mental, and social well-being. While our efforts will have wide-ranging effects across the state and the nation, our primary focus will be on underserved communities and populations in southeastern North Carolina.

As a college we seek to be recognized for high quality teaching, research, and service. The hallmark of the CHHS experience is the application of theory to practice. Through in-class and field experiences, our students will learn to develop and apply knowledge regarding illness, health, wellness, and human needs, while recognizing and building upon the innate strengths and dignity of individuals and communities in which they work. In this, we prepare the highest quality professional who possesses a unique understanding of how to synthesize knowledge in transdisciplinary/interprofessional teams to address real community problems. Our students and faculty work in close partnerships with the community to discover and apply scientific knowledge that serves the public and produces tangible benefits to human beings in all their diversity.