

## Priorities within Health Care Division

Through the Health Care Division, the Trust responds to health and wellness needs and invests in solutions that improve the quality of health for financially needy residents of North Carolina. The Health Care Division seeks impact through two program areas—Supporting Prevention and Providing Treatment.

Within those program areas, the Trust has identified areas of emphasis and more specific areas of priority. Grant proposals within our areas of emphasis and areas of priority will be given a higher priority in our funding decisions.

- **Supporting Prevention** — promoting wellness by providing health information, health services, and systems level interventions before conditions occur or are diagnosed. Successfully supporting prevention will effectively reduce the need to provide treatment. These interventions may occur at the individual or community level.

<i>Area of Emphasis</i>	<i>Priorities</i>
<p>➤ <b>Disease and Illness Prevention</b> – Programs and strategies that focus on the identification and prevention of chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, cancer, stroke) and communicable diseases through interventions that target populations specifically at-risk of the disease or illness (e.g., tobacco users). Preventive dental services (e.g., hygiene and sealants) fall within this area of emphasis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Diabetes</b> – Efforts to identify and support those most at risk of developing diabetes through strategies reflecting the best practices in the field.</li> <li>▪ <b>Mental Health and Substance Abuse</b> – Efforts to identify and support those most at-risk of impairment and addiction reflecting the best practices in the field.</li> </ul>

<i>Area of Emphasis</i>	<i>Priorities</i>
<p>➤ <b>Health Promotion and Wellness</b> – Strategies for improving the health of individuals, groups, and communities by providing them with the tools to make informed decisions about their well-being and modify their behaviors. For example, these activities could focus on increasing physical activity and good nutrition or decreasing risky behaviors such as substance abuse and tobacco use. Programs that are educational in nature or involve community outreach such as efforts to reduce infant mortality, promote health literacy, or reduce obesity fall within this area of emphasis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Community Change</b> – Efforts to improve individual and community health outcomes. These include sustainable policy, standards, and practice changes within and between community stakeholders and institutions (i.e. schools, worksites, faith communities, neighborhoods, and municipalities.)</li> </ul>

- **Providing Treatment** — improving health outcomes by making available health and medical services for diagnosed and existing conditions. Assisting vulnerable populations in getting access to treatment positively affects not only the individual and families who are in need, but the communities in which they live.

<i>Area of Emphasis</i>	<i>Priorities</i>
<p>➤ <b>Access to Primary Medical Care</b> – Includes the fields of internal medicine, family practice, general practice, obstetrics, and pediatrics and providers such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants. Access to prescription medications falls within this area of emphasis. This area of emphasis does not include adult day health programs, dental care, hospice services, inpatient hospital care, or long-term care.</p>	<p>▪ <b>Providing a Medical Home</b> – Efforts to identify and secure medical home for all. In addition to episodic primary care, a medical home features coordinated care and one or more of the following – chronic disease management, medication assistance, and preventive care.</p>
	<p>▪ <b>Increasing Health Care Coverage</b> – Efforts to increase the number of low-income North Carolinians who have coverage. Includes increases in coverage supported by both the private and public sectors.</p>

<i>Area of Emphasis</i>	<i>Priorities</i>
<p>➤ <b>Mental Health Services</b> – Counseling and other behavioral health services including substance abuse services. To determine if a project falls in this area of emphasis, the Trust will look at the services that are provided rather than the population that is served. For example, vocational programs for adults with developmental disabilities would not fall in this area of emphasis. Counseling services within a domestic violence program would fall within this area of emphasis.</p>	<p>▪ <b>Developing or Strengthening a Continuum of Care</b> – Efforts that respond to both systemic gaps and gaps in individual care.</p>
	<p>▪ <b>Integrated Care</b> – Efforts that brings mental and primary health care providers together in concurrent assessment and treatment. Includes co-location and reverse co-location models.</p>
	<p>▪ <b>Substance Abuse</b> – Expansion of evidence-based treatment to those most in need. Priority will be given to those proposals that are consistent with the North Carolina Institute of Medicine’s Substance Abuse Task Force recommendations.</p>

<i>Area of Emphasis</i>	<i>Priorities</i>
<p>➤ <b>Diabetes Care and Management</b> – Providing medical care and self-management education intended to keep the illness under control and delay, diminish, or prevent its many debilitating impacts on both physical health and quality of life. For example, these may include programs for people recently diagnosed with diabetes performed in an outpatient hospital setting or may involve the implementation of a heightened level of standardized care in a community clinic setting, among others.</p>	<p>▪ <b>Access to Quality Medical Care</b> – Efforts to provide a physician coordinated team that consists of a comprehensive initial patient evaluation and a continuum of care. Teams may include mid-level practitioners, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, and mental health professionals. Proposals that use cost-effective care without compromising patients’ needs are of particular interest.</p>
	<p>▪ <b>Patient Self-Management</b> – Efforts to provide individualized self-management planning to include glycemic control, reasonable physical activity, and psychosocial care and support as recommended by the American Diabetes Association.</p>

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