



Catawba County Public Health

www.catawbacountync.gov/phealth

3070 11th Ave. Dr. SE, Hickory, NC 28602

Phone (828) 695-5800

Fax (828) 695-4410

Public Health Month 2012 A Proclamation

WHEREAS, we hereby recognize and acknowledge public health's 132 years of service to the residents of North Carolina and the immeasurable contribution of these services to the quality of life in our State; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's public health system is a critical component of the state's emergency response to natural and man-made disasters and widespread disease outbreaks in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, public health measures to control and eliminate infectious diseases, improve environmental sanitation, and promote healthy lifestyle practices have been the greatest cause of improved health status and increased life expectancy for North Carolina's residents, such that North Carolinians now have an average life expectancy at birth of more than 80 years; and

WHEREAS, public health plays a critical role in eliminating health inequities and preventing chronic diseases and injuries, resulting in improved productivity and decreased health care costs for all North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, a continued focus on promoting public health programs that provide accessible, high quality medical care and that promote healthy lifestyles for women of childbearing has resulted in a more than 11percent decline in infant mortality, the lowest rate in the state's history; and

WHEREAS, a continued focus on prevention has resulted in a more than 29 percent decline in age-adjusted heart disease death rates since 2000, a more than 38 percent decline in age-adjusted stroke death rates since 2000, and an almost 35 percent decline in the teen pregnancy rate since 2000; and

WHEREAS, state government is committed to a continued emphasis on prevention in Public Health and helping North Carolina reach a better state of health through actions outlined in the Healthy North Carolina 2020 Objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy North Carolina 2020 health objectives represent a 10-year plan to improve the health of all North Carolinians by working to promote access to preventive and needed health services; foster positive and supportive living and working conditions in our communities; and support individuals in developing the capacities and skills to achieve healthy living; and

"Leading the Way to a Healthier Community"



Public Health Month Proclamation

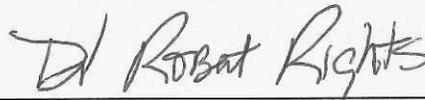
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WHEREAS, communities, employers, hospitals and health care providers, individuals and families, insurers, legislators and policy makers, schools and child care facilities must work together to identify and develop innovative solutions to health problems facing the people of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, the **Catawba County Board of Health** does hereby proclaim April, 2012, as **"PUBLIC HEALTH MONTH"** in Catawba County, North Carolina and urge our citizens to recognize that public health is working to ensure that all people living in Catawba County are protected from threats such as influenza, food borne disease, injury and chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and asthma.

Signed this the 3rd day of April, 2012



Dr. Robert Rights, Chairman
Catawba County Board of Health

"Leading the Way to a Healthier Community"

