

Item Title: Establishment of a Wake County Population Health Task Force

Specific Action Requested:

That the Wake County Board of Commissioners:

- 1. Establishes a Population Health Task Force; and**
- 2. Appoints Commissioner Sig Hutchinson to serve as Chair of the Task Force.**

Item Summary:

The 2017 Board of Commissioners' Community Health Action Plan established the goal of promoting an effective behavioral and physical health system of care and practice that benefits all residents. This objective is based upon the Robert Wood Johnson model for healthy communities and "building a culture of health." The Board agreed to consider implementation of a Population Health Task Force (PHTF), comprised of diverse stakeholders to develop a comprehensive Wake County Plan for a Culture of Health. The Wake County PHTF is designed to deliver a path forward for the Wake County Board of Commissioners' objective. The establishment of the Task Force was discussed on February 13, 2017 at the Board of Commissioners Work Session.

The mission of the Wake County PHTF is to develop a comprehensive plan to improve the health and wellbeing of its residents by addressing social determinants of health through focused policy and strategies that support healthy communities, active life styles and thriving residents; the built environment; systems for change and making the healthy choice the easy choice. This effort builds upon prior work of groups such as the Council on Fitness and Healthiest Capital County, and the Community Health Needs Assessment Process, with emphasis on aligning Countywide efforts towards common goals.

It is recommended the Task Force be established by April 14, 2017 with the expectation that the group will commit to a 12-month effort with deliverables in the form of a tactical report to the Wake County Board of Commissioners by April 30, 2018. The Task Force will meet in-person monthly, and form subcommittees as needed to assure continuous efforts that move the work to completion. Each Task Force member is expected to serve on a subcommittee.

The Task Force will produce a strategic, comprehensive Wake County Plan for a Culture of Health focusing on but not limited to the following:

1. Review of existing methodologies, philosophies, systems and models to develop a common understanding of how communities are currently impacting population health.
2. Collaborative development of holistic recommendations utilizing existing models, strategies and systems; as well as new approaches to address health disparities, create healthy communities, impact the built environment and make the healthy choice the easy choice.

3. Recommend a system of outreach to impact all residents through community engagement, land use and transportation policies, employer programs, clubs and organization enrollment, communication with the faith community, and government programs.

The Task Force will be comprised of up to 25 community leaders. The Board of Commissioners will appoint members to the Task Force. Commissioner Sig Hutchinson has requested to serve as Chair of the Task Force based on his longstanding leadership at the national and local levels for healthy environments and health in all policies.

Attachments:

1. Presentation from February 13, 2017 Board Work Session
2. Population Health Resources
3. Population Health Outcomes
4. County Health Rankings