

THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

Grants
Information
Stakeholders
Training

Subrecipient Highlight

Hendersonville Police Department has taken significant steps to enhance the physical and mental wellbeing of their staff. They embed a mental health professional within the organization providing on-site and convenient access to behavioral health services at no cost to the employee. "Adding an embedded mental health clinician is one of the best tools you can use to improve the wellbeing of staff. Our program has also become one of our greatest recruiting tools as applicants and families learn about what we provide," stated Chief Blair Myhand.

Responder Support Services have provided 314 hours of confidential counseling since the grant began. One individual sought counseling after hearing a coworker talk about their therapy. They discovered they had PTSD stemming from a traumatic workplace incident and never realized it. They stated, "When I started therapy my mind was in a fog at all times and I felt like I was stuck in the deepest of ruts. Now my mind is clear and I no longer feel like I'm trapped in a nasty rut." The program has created a positive ripple effect on the overall culture and atmosphere within our agency.

Medicaid Expansion

Beginning December 1, 2023, 600,000 more people will be able to get health coverage through NC Medicaid. DHHS has a new [website](#), bilingual toolkit, and a sign-up form to stay updated on the most current information about how more North Carolinians will be able to get health coverage through NC Medicaid.

Impaired Driving Month



December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. According to the Governor's Highway Safety Program, December is also a

dangerous month. More parties and festivities celebrating the holiday season brings out more impaired drivers. DMV reports that 448 people died in alcohol-related crashes in North Carolina last year. So far this year, 300 people have already died in alcohol and drug-related crashes. While North Carolina drivers 21 and older can be convicted of DWI if they have a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent or higher, it is illegal for all drivers under the age of 21 to drive with any amount of alcohol in their system. Remember: a few dollars spent on a ride is a lot cheaper than a DUI, which can cost up to \$10,000. Allowing a sober driver to help you get home safely keeps you and others safe. A helpful resource: [The ABCs of BAC – A guide to understanding blood alcohol concentration and alcohol impairment.](#)

The Governor's Crime Commission has created a VOCA Funding handout for Subrecipients to utilize to educate others on the funding changes. The handout can be downloaded from our website.

Governor's Crime Commission
North Carolina Dept. of Public Safety
1201 Front St., Raleigh, NC 27609
919-733-4564
www.ncdps.gov/gcc


Governor's Crime Commission
NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY