

Project H.O.P.E. Offers Free Health Screenings Through Bingo & Bites

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a disruption in nearly every way we live our lives, including, for many, the way we take care of ourselves.

Recognizing that for many in Camden, the pandemic has meant a break in health care—missed doctor's appointments, missed routine check-ups, **Project H.O.P.E. offered an easy way for its community to get back on track.**

On August 20, Project H.O.P.E. hosted a health screening event and welcomed all to stop by for free evaluations. The theme of the event was Bingo & Bites and the health center offered games, food, ice cream and household goods to those who participated.

Dozens of people—including many new patients!—took it up on its offer and visited Project H.O.P.E.'s facility on a misty summer Friday to be screened for diabetes, receive a physical, or be screened for various cancers, including breast, prostate, or colorectal cancer.

This preventative approach to health care is so important, especially after 18 months of canceled appointments or postponing care, as it leads to a healthier, stronger community and patient base.

“We serve a population that often doesn’t have stable housing or stable food supply and because of that, they are more subject to chronic disease,” said Anita Parker, MBA, Population Health Specialist at Project H.O.P.E. and the organizer of the event. “This makes it even more important to maintain uninterrupted care and keep them healthy and happy for years to come.”

Project H.O.P.E. partnered with like-minded organizations for the event as well. Aetna representatives were on hand to assist and help patients obtain health insurance if needed and Cooper University Health Care’s Cancer Education and Early Detection program helped with cancer screenings.