

NC Received \$33 Million in Federal Grants

The NC Department of Health and Human Services was awarded a \$23 million grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on September 19, 2018. The grant is provided to target opioid use disorder prevention and treatment. The federal agencies awarded approximately \$1 billion in grant funding to 57 agencies, including state agencies and U.S. territories. North Carolina has an Opioid Action Plan in place for 2017- 2021.

HRSA also awarded a little over \$10 million to 36 of North Carolina's community health centers (CHCs) to expand access to behavioral health (mental health and substance use disorder) services, the NC Community Health Centers Association announced. In 2017, CHCs served more than 550,000 people across North Carolina with 43% of those patients being uninsured. Medicaid comprises only about 25% of the funding for community health centers. Two CHCs, Appalachian Mountain Community Health Centers in Asheville and Metropolitan Community Health/Agape Health Services in Washington, were awarded an additional \$200,000 each from the federal Office of Rural Health Policy to address substance use disorders in their rural communities.