

## **2013 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan**

Nash Health Care established strategies for meeting three specific needs of the community: Medicare transitional care, helping low income NC residents obtain health insurance coverage, and providing assistance with the OIC mental health program.

### **Strategy 1: Medicare Transitional Care Program**

This program is sponsored by CMS (Medicare) and focuses on reducing hospital readmissions of high risk, Medicare patients suffering from a chronic disease. Nash Health Care began participation in May 2013 by providing nursing case management. A program director and two full-time staff nurses now serve this at-risk population.

In the first six months, 260 patients were enrolled; 9% of the total Medicare discharges.

### **Strategy 2: Faith-Based Health Insurance Navigators**

Nash Health Care applied for and received funding from the Kate B. Reynolds Foundation to assist low income NC residents in obtaining health insurance coverage. Focus areas are Medicaid and federal health insurance exchange ([www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)) enrollment for the uninsured.

Funds were used to hire and train two ACA (Affordable Care Act) navigators. These navigators, working in churches, signed up 200 individuals for health insurance and “touched” approximately 2,000 people during the November 2014 – February 2015 cycle.

The Nash Health Care Chaplaincy selected the community churches and provided support office space, furniture and equipment.

### **Strategy 3: OIC Mental Health Program**

There is a desperate need in the Rocky Mount area for access to outpatient mental health services. Recent studies show that 75% of all hospital readmissions within 30 days have a behavioral health co-morbidity.

In January 2015, the OIC Clinic opened a second facility in downtown Rocky Mount offering mental health services. The staff includes a psychiatrist and several mid-level practitioners.

Nash Health Care partially subsidizes a mental health provider who serves uninsured, low income, and at-risk patients. NHC also provides financial assistance to OIC in return for providing follow-up “coverage” for its Emergency Department and Coastal Plains Hospital discharges.