

Horizon Health Center / Wake Health Services, Inc.

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Director: Penella M. Washington
HCH Coordinator: Evangeline Adams Ward
Medical Director: Jim Hartye, MD
UDS Number: 041000

Project Description

Horizon Health Center (HHC) is one of six practices operated by Wake Health Services, Inc. (WHSI). Horizon Health Center provides primary health care to persons who are homeless in Wake County.

Services

Primary health care services are provided by a full-time family practice physician, a part-time physician's assistant, and an RN. Services include acute care, management of chronic health conditions, referrals to medical specialists, hospital admission, post-hospital and surgical follow-up, access to medications, labs, substance abuse services, French and Spanish language interpretation, and assistance with food stamp and Medicaid applications.

Linkages

Horizon Health Center founded and actively participates in a county wide diabetes collaborative addressing access to medications, supplies, proper shoes, and education. HHC collaborates with area shelters to identify medically at-risk individuals who need shelter during the day in extreme summer weather. HHC holds annual flu shot clinics at area agencies for individuals who are homeless. HHC works with pharmaceutical company programs and a local pharmacy to meet patients' medication needs.

Statistics

Estimated homeless population: 18,472 Project users: 682

Lincoln Community Health Center, Inc.

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Director: Evelyn Schmidt, MD

HCH Coordinator: Eunice W. Ngumba, PhD

Medical Director: Babafemi Taiwo, MD

UDS Number: 040910

Project Description

The Health Care for the Homeless Project operates a shelter site clinic in the Community Services Building. This building, located in downtown Durham, also houses the city's largest shelter for single men and women. Women with children also reside at this facility.

Services

All services are provided directly by Lincoln Community Health Center at the shelter site or at its main center. Comprehensive primary health care, case management, mental health treatment, and outreach services are offered at the shelter clinic. The clinic is staffed by mid-level practitioners. Volunteer physicians and other health professionals staff one of the three evening clinics.

Linkages

The project has strong linkages with other area health and mental health agencies. Lincoln Community Health Center, in collaboration with the Durham County Health Department, operates an Early Intervention Clinic for HIV-positive and AIDS patients. Family planning, prenatal care, and tuberculosis screening and treatment services are also offered by the County Health Department located across the street from the Health Care for the Homeless Clinic. The Durham County Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services Agencies sustain strong linkages with the Health Care for the Homeless Project through the Adult Mental Health Unit, the PATH project which provides transitional housing, and the Shelter Plus Care Project which funded 15 units of permanent housing in 1995 for mentally ill or substance abusing patients who were homeless. Substance Abuse Services continues to provide staff at the project's shelter site.

Statistics

Estimated homeless population: 2,169 Project users: 267