



## REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

ITEM NO. 18

**DATE OF MEETING:** December 14, 2015

**REQUESTED BY:** Carolyn Moser, Health and Human Services Director, Health Department

**SHORT TITLE:** Board of Health Endorsement for the Health department to complete and submit a Healthy Beginnings Program Grant Targeted at the Reduction of Minority Infant Mortality.

**BACKGROUND:** In 1994, the NC General Assembly appropriated funds to support projects that would lower infant mortality and low birthweight rates among minority populations. The goal of the Healthy Beginnings program is to address the disparity between white and minority infant mortality by targeting areas with significant minority infant mortality. In 2014, the state minority infant mortality rate for African Americans was 12.8 or 2.5 times higher than the White population. Pender County minority infant mortality rate for 2010-2014 is 26.4. There is a clear need to implement strategies that will focus on reduction of such rates. (A copy of the top 25 counties 2010-2014 Minority Infant Mortality rate is attached).

Between 10-12 sites will be funded at an award level of \$65,000-\$80,000 annually. Funding is available for three years contingent upon contract compliance, program performance and the availability of funding. Awards will begin June 1, 2016 and end May 31, 2019. No matching funds are required by the county.

**SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED:** To approve Board of Health endorsement for the health department to complete and submit a Healthy Beginnings program grant targeted at the reduction of minority infant mortality.

**RESOLUTION**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that  
the Board of Health endorse completion and submission by the health department of a  
Healthy Beginnings program grant targeted at the reduction of minority infant mortality.

**AMENDMENTS:**

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DENIED \_\_\_\_\_ UNANIMOUS

YEA VOTES: Williams \_\_\_ Brown \_\_\_ McCoy \_\_\_ Piepmeyer \_\_\_ Keith \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
J. David Williams, Chairman 12/14/2015  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST 12/14/2015  
Date

### Demonstrated Need Score

Applications are desired from the counties in North Carolina in the chart below that rank in the top quartile (i.e. the top 25) for infant mortality among minority populations. Ranking is based on the State's five-year average from 2010-2014. Applicants from these counties shall receive a demonstrated need score as indicated on the table below. The demonstrated need score shall be added to the application score established by the objective review committee.

### North Carolina Minority Infant Mortality Rates 2010-2014<sup>2</sup>

Rank	County	5-yr. Rate	Rank Points
1	MONTGOMERY	27.7	5
2	PENDER	26.4	5
3	ROCKINGHAM	21.5	5
4	IREDELL	20.8	5
5	STANLY	20.5	5
6	LEE	20.1	4
7	PERSON	19.0	4
8	BEAUFORT	17.4	4
9	COLUMBUS	17.2	4
10	GASTON	17.2	4
11	CLEVELAND	16.8	3
12	HARNETT	16.8	3
13	NORTHAMPTON	16.3	3
14	PITT	16.2	3
15	HERTFORD	16.1	3
16	BERTIE	15.3	2
17	DAVIDSON	14.3	2
18	ALAMANCE	14.1	2
19	RICHMOND	14.0	2
20	UNION	14.0	2
21	VANCE	13.8	1
22	FORSYTH	13.5	1
23	HALIFAX	13.4	1
24	DUPLIN	13.2	1
25	ROBESON	13.1	1

<sup>2</sup>Minority infant mortality rates are based on infant deaths reported among African American Non-Hispanic, American Indian Non-Hispanic and Other Non-Hispanic populations. Counties whose infant mortality rates are based on less than 10 deaths are excluded from this list, as the State Center for Health Statistics considers these rates unreliable. Source: NC Department of Health and Human Services State Center for Health Statistics.