October 2026 Newsletter

Coalition for a Healthy Appling County

Our Mission:

To transform the Appling County community by ensuring access to healthcare, improving access to resources, engaging in strong collaborative alliances, and developing a universal message to communicate health for all.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Prescription Drug Take Back Event:

Do you have expired, unused, or unwanted prescription medications sitting in your medicine cabinet?

Help keep our community safe by properly disposing of them at our Prescription Drug Take Back Event!

- Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2026
- Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Location: Baxley Wellness Pharmacy
  160 Azalea Rd., Baxley, GA 31513

Go Pink & Beyond Health Fair:

Community Health & Wellness Day
Healthy Women. Healthy Men. A Healthier Community.

- Date: Saturday, October 24, 2026
- Time: 10:00 AM–2:00 PM
- Location: First African Baptist Church, 154 N Comas St, Baxley, GA 31513 (Social Hall)

Join CHAC for a free, drop-in community health fair featuring free health screenings, fitness activities, healthy eating information, healthy snacks, and door prizes! **All are welcome!**

Interested in volunteering with CHAC?

The public is encouraged to get involved with this community effort. If you are interested in getting involved in CHAC, ask one of our community partners or contact our Program Coordinator, Olivia Davis, at:
olivia.hiersdavis@sharehealthsega.org

Red Ribbon Week
October 23–31!

Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention campaign, encouraging youth, families, and communities to make healthy choices and stay drug-free.

DID YOU KNOW?

Prevention starts before there is a problem. Talking openly with children and teens about the risks of alcohol, nicotine, prescription medications, and other drugs can help build healthy decision-making skills and reduce the risk of future substance misuse.

Small conversations can make a big difference.

- **How was school today? What was the best part of your day?**
- **What do you and your friends usually do for fun?**
- **What's something you're proud of yourself for doing recently?**

Prevention Capacity Building Workshop

The Coalition for a Healthy Appling County (CHAC) recently hosted a two-day Prevention Capacity Building Workshop, equipping 15 community partners with valuable knowledge, tools, and strategies to strengthen local prevention efforts. Facilitated by A&E Consulting, the training focused on building community capacity, enhancing collaboration, and supporting sustainable prevention initiatives. Participants gained practical skills to bring back to their organizations and the communities they serve. CHAC extends a special thank-you to A&E Consulting for facilitating the workshop, the Appling County Commissioners for providing the meeting space, and Blessings and Grace for providing lunch. Together, we are building stronger partnerships and working toward a healthier, more resilient community!



PILLS KILL: Youth Leading the Way in Opioid Prevention

With funding from Round 1 of the Share Health mini grant program, the City of Baxley Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) has launched PILLS KILL, a youth-led opioid prevention awareness campaign in partnership with the Coalition for a Healthy Appling County (CHAC). Sponsored by the CDC Foundation's Georgia Opioid Prevention Partnership, the MYC's mini grant empowers young people to educate their peers and community about the dangers of opioid misuse and taking medications that are not prescribed to them. Through community outreach and the distribution of free PILLS KILL T-shirts and wristbands, youth council members are spreading a powerful prevention message. The campaign is already reaching community members through local events, including the Lady Pirates Community Pep Rally. This project highlights the importance of youth leadership in prevention and the power of community partnerships in working to prevent opioid-related tragedies.

Temple of the Higher Calling Hosts Opioid Prevention Tailgate

With a contract from Share Health's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Georgia Overdose Prevention Partnership, the Temple of the Higher Calling hosted a youth-focused tailgate and field day event from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., bringing together 73 attendees for an afternoon centered around connection, suicide prevention education, and community engagement. The event took place following youth services and featured a variety of field day activities, interactive booths, free food provided by the church, and activities designed to engage both youth and parents.



Share Health Southeast Georgia was represented at the event with an informational booth focused on mental health and substance use prevention. Resources available at the table included brochures on anxiety, coping with grief and loss, and suicide prevention, as well as drug overdose awareness materials covering warning signs, myths and facts, and prevention resources. CHAC water bottles were also provided as giveaways. Our Prevention Coordinator, Jodi Pudwill, represented the Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust at the event and our Community Engagement Coordinator, Terika Williams, MPH, represented Georgia Access. Southeast Georgia Consultant, Christy Foskey, CPS-AD, was also in attendance, representing the Georgia Overdose Prevention Network and providing 48 total Narcan kits and 16 fentanyl test strips, along with additional opioid awareness and prevention resources.



The event brought together community partners to share educational materials, harm reduction resources, and information on recognizing and responding to an opioid overdose. Through community engagement and collaboration, the event helped equip individuals and families with potentially lifesaving information while strengthening local efforts to prevent opioid-related tragedies.



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SAVE THE DATES!

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAININGS

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

9:30AM-4:00PM

APPLING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
560 BARNES ST, BAXLEY, GA 31513

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

DECEMBER 3, 2026

9:30AM-4:00PM

APPLING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ROOM
69 TIPPINS STREET, BAXLEY, GA 31513

Gents & Glam

Share Health SOUTHEAST GEORGIA

Coalition for a Healthy Appling County

Magnolia Coastlands AHEC Area Health Education Center

Stay tuned for event updates and registration information!

GEORGIA NURSING LICENSURE RENEWAL

THE GEORGIA BOARD OF NURSING DEEMS MAGNOLIA COASTLANDS AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER AS AN ACCEPTABLE PROVIDER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE). THIS ACTIVITY IS APPROVED FOR 8 CE HOURS TOWARD THE CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR GEORGIA LICENSURE RENEWAL. NURSES SHOULD ONLY CLAIM CREDIT COMMENSURATE WITH THE EXTENT OF THEIR PARTICIPATION.