



**Share Health Southeast Georgia**

**2017-18**  
**Annual Report**

## INTRODUCTION

Share Health Southeast Georgia was established in September of 2015 to build our region's capacity to address many of the unmet health care needs of Southeast Georgia residents. The organization was initially funded through a federal Office of Rural Health Policy Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant awarded to the Ware County Board of Health and its partners. This grant provided funds to incorporate the organization, acquire nonprofit 501(c)3 status from the Internal Revenue Service, establish and provide support to a Board of Directors, engage in a five-year strategic planning process and plan for sustainability.

Share Health serves 16 southeast Georgia counties:



Appling  
Atkinson  
Bacon  
Brantley

Bulloch  
Candler  
Charlton  
Clinch

Coffee  
Evans  
Jeff Davis  
Pierce

Tattnall  
Toombs  
Ware  
Wayne

## MISSION

Share Health Southeast Georgia is dedicated to improving the health of all generations in our sixteen-county community by cultivating partnerships and providing philanthropic and advocacy support to the Southeast Health District.

We work to accomplish our mission by:

- Engaging local community partners to help us identify local health issues and address them via community driven strategies.
- Utilizing data to identify and increase understanding of the issues and to determine the strategies necessary to address them.
- Opening doors to funding streams and resources traditionally unavailable to government agencies that allow us the means to address local health issues; and
- Providing training via scholarships to retain a skilled healthcare workforce.

We maintain a close partnership with the Southeast Health District, one of 16 public health districts in Georgia. The Southeast Health District provides our board with public health expertise and consultation on community health issues and concerns via an Advisory Committee. Dr. Rosemarie Parks, MD, MPH, the Southeast Health District Director, serves as an ex-officio member of the Share Health Southeast Georgia board.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2017-18 represents Share Health's second year of full operations. We are proud of our accomplishments and continue to build on them to fulfill our mission and strategic goals.

### Community Health Initiatives

#### Coalition for a Healthy Appling County

Share Health Southeast Georgia is partnering with the Appling County Health Department to organize and coordinate efforts of the Coalition for a Healthy Appling County (CHAC). Funded through a Two Georgias grant from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation, the CHAC has over 20 members, representing civic, faith, government and business organizations. The initial Two Georgias grant, awarded to the Appling County Board of Health in July 2017, funded a planning year and the development of a Community Health Implementation Plan (CHIP), based on data derived from needs assessment, community focus groups. The CHAC mission is "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." Over the next four years, the CHAC will focus on three goals: (1) Empower all Appling County residents to eat a health diet; (2) Empower all Appling County residents to be physically active; (3) Leverage partnerships to offer seamless behavioral health care to school children. Now in its second of five years of Healthcare Georgia Foundation funding, the CHAC is implementing strategies to achieve its goals.

Through a contract with Appling County Board of Health, Share Health coordinates CHAC activities, including providing assistance with the development of the CHAC's mission, goals and objectives, organizing coalition meetings, facilitating communications between CHAC members and the CHAC and community and providing technical support in the development of the CHIP. Share Health also administers a mini grant program intended to allow community members and organizations from Appling County to apply for funds to implement some of the strategies identified in the CHIP that will help improve the health of Appling citizens. The first round of mini-grant applications resulted in the award of six mini-grants totaling over \$17,000.

#### Jeff Davis Substance Abuse Coalition

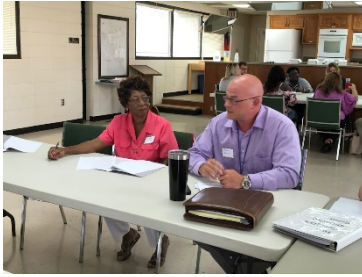
In the Spring of 2018, Share Health partnered with the Jeff Davis Board of Health, Jeff Davis Family Connection Collaborative, Jeff Davis Hospital, Jeff Davis High School, Hazlehurst Police Department, Pineland Behavioral Health Community Service Board and the Southeast Health District to submit an application to the Health Resources and Services Administration for a Rural Health Network Development Planning grant to address the serious and growing substance abuse challenges residents of Jeff Davis

County face. Grant funds were awarded in August 2018 and the Jeff Davis Substance Abuse Coalition was formed. Funds will be used to identify resources and needs related to substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery and develop a strategic plan to address the entire spectrum of need in a comprehensive, cross-sector initiative that involves law enforcement, local health entities including the hospital, medical providers, behavioral health care and the health department, schools, EMS, faith community and social service agencies.

Over the next year, Share Health will coordinate the JDSAC strategic planning process by organizing coalition meetings, facilitating communication between members and with the larger community, identifying resources for the coalition as they develop goals, objectives and strategies, and providing technical support to members. A Jumpstart Fund has been established to provide JDSAC partners with opportunities to support innovative ideas that result from the strategic planning process such as partner collaborations or pilot projects that achieve efficiencies, enhance coordination, test innovative strategies or lead to policy changes.

Photos from the CHAC are included below.





## Scholarship Program

The Share Health Southeast Georgia Scholarship Program offers scholarships to both traditional and nontraditional students pursuing a career in healthcare. Scholarships are offered to traditional students who reside in and attend high school in our 16-county service area. Non-traditional students who are enrolled in a degree program in public health or healthcare and reside in one of the 16 counties of the Southeast Health District can apply for scholarship assistance. Preference is given to nontraditional students who are employees of the Southeast Health District. In May 2018, we awarded four scholarships to high school students and two scholarships to Southeast Health District public health employees. Scholarship recipients include:

- Ashley Marsh, a graduate of Bulloch Academy, attending the Georgia Institute of Technology.
- Michaelyn Tapley, a graduate of Ware County High School attending University of Georgia.
- Rebecca Ashton Taylor a graduate of Ware County High School, attending Mercer University.

Southeast Health District scholarship recipients are:

- Juan Rosario-Rodriguez from Hinesville, Georgia who attends Georgia Southern University pursuing a Doctorate in Public Health with a concentration in Public Health Leadership
- Jenna Harris from Statesboro, Georgia, who attends Georgia Southern University pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Health.



Juan Rosario-Rodriguez

Doctorate of Public Health with a concentration in Public Health Leadership  
Georgia Southern University, expected graduation date of Spring 2021.

*"The Share Health scholarship has helped alleviate the burden of certain costs associated with going back to school and has provided support in my overall goal of attaining my degree while still working full time for the Southeast Health District. My family and I greatly appreciate this benefit given to us by Share Health."*

Jenna Harris

Certificate of Public Health, expected completion date May 2019  
Georgia Southern University

*"I am so thankful for the scholarship. It covered the cost of all of my books and the rest went toward my tuition. I appreciate the scholarship opportunity so much, it was the motivation I needed to get back in school. The credits that I am receiving through the Certificate Program will go toward my Masters Degree which I am planning to start in the fall. The knowledge I have gained through these courses has already helped me in my career and I am excited to continue to learn and make a bigger difference in the lives of those we serve daily in our clinics. "*

Photos of 2017-18 scholarship winners are included below.



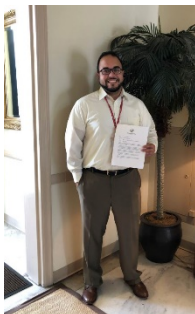
Ashley Marsh



Michaelyn Tapley



Ashton Taylor



Juan Rosario-Rodriguez



Jenna Harris

## **Share Health Southeast Georgia 2017-18 Board of Directors**

Joshua McCarthy, MD, Chair  
Private practice physician, Waycross, GA

Ms. Gail Seifert, Vice-Chair  
Executive Director, Ware Children's Initiative  
Waycross, GA

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CEO, East Georgia Healthcare Center, Swainsboro, GA

Angela Haney, Ed.D.  
Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Brantley County Schools

Rosemarie D. Parks, MD, MPH, Ex-officio member  
District Health Director, Southeast Health District  
Waycross, GA

Hollard Phillips  
Health Specialist, Action Pact  
Adjunct Instructor of Sociology, South Georgia State College

April Thomason  
Executive Director, Coffee County Family Connection  
Douglas, GA