



Johnston County
Public Health



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For Immediate Release:

Johnston County Health Department Behavioral Health Division
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(Smithfield, NC) – The Johnston County Public Health Department and Johnston County Mental Health Center (LME) are pleased to announce the transfer of psychiatric services formerly provided by the Mental Health Center to form a Behavioral Health Division in the Public Health Department. Through this arrangement, 21 Mental Health staff members were transferred to Public Health so that established clients of the Johnston County Mental Health Center may continue to see their current provider for psychiatric and related services with no disruption of care.

Services will continue to be provided at the Johnston County Mental Health Center location at 521 N. Bright Leaf Blvd., Smithfield, NC. Johnston County Health Department Behavioral Division can be reached at 919-938-6400 and Johnston County Mental Health Center at 919-989-5500.

“With ongoing discussions about integrating physical and mental health services throughout the healthcare industry, we anticipate this integration will position us well for future success,” said Dr. Marilyn Pearson, Health Director for Johnston County. “It is an exciting and dynamic time for both entities as we bolster the capabilities of our agencies.”

Johnston County Mental Health Center (LME) has become a partner in the Alliance Behavioral Healthcare Managed Care Organization along with Wake, Durham and Cumberland Counties. The LME will continue to perform Provider Relations, Community Relations, and Care Coordination for those in Johnston County with Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Intellectual/Developmental Disability needs.

“With the Health Department integrating psychiatric and behavioral health services into their department, and the LME expanding the ability of our agency to focus on coordinating care and assisting Johnston County providers in enhancing their services, we have an excellent opportunity to make Johnston County a model in this area of healthcare” said Dr. Janis Nutt, Mental Health Director for Johnston County.

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