PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

To develop and implement activities that provide for the well-being of all citizens in a responsive, respectful, and engaged manner

INITIATIVE / PERFORMANCE GOAL

PROJECT UPDATE

Initiative: Expand and increase access to public health and safety services that benefit our most vulnerable populations

Strategy: The Stepping Up Initiative is committed to working to reduce the number of people with mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use who are booked into jail - with a focus on early identification, treatment, discharge planning and connection to services and support for those who are in detention

Strategy: The Health Department will establish a Coordinated Community response including organizational structure for support to address the Opioid Epidemic *Goal completed Oct 2018*

Updates:

- 1) Recent Cardinal Grant and Private Donation made towards the establishment of The Alamance County Diversion and Restoration Center—and approval to hire a program director for the center
- 2) New software in place for tracking treatment outcomes for inmates with positive screening for mental illness and/or substance use issues who are booked into jail
- 3) Detention center clinical social work position has been established and is providing mental health assessments, treatment, discharge, and re-entry planning
- 4) Establishing a process that connects Veterans who are booked into jail and experiencing mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use, with the appropriate services and resources aimed at reducing jail recidivism and enhancing outcomes to Veterans 5) Working with judicial staff, court personnel and the detention center, to establish and pilot a Pre-Trial Release Program; particularly for those low-level, non-violent offenders—particularly those experiencing mental illness and co-occurring substance use; for which treatment is a more effective alternative to incarceration

Update: Opioid Steering Committee has been formed, and 4 work groups have been created (Treatment, Policy, Prevention/Ed, and Harm Reduction). The Steering Committee has submitted a NC DPH grant in September for Harm Reduction consultation and post-overdose response. In addition, the strategic plan and action steps have been completed.

To see all Public Health and Safety goals, please visit the Performance Management website at www.alamance-nc.com/pmp/

