



# CCBOH Quarterly Newsletter

## A Season of Firsts!

The fall and winter seasons have been a very busy time for the Clayton County Board of Health (CCBOH). In just the past few months, the CCBOH has: Unveiled a new company logo; hosted its first-ever Corporate Round Table and Men and Women’s Health Symposium; begun to roll out its new Teen Pregnancy Prevention program; and introduced the first-ever Clayton County State of Health Report. For more details, as well as information about the Board of Health’s new indoor walking track mural, please read this issue!

## Clayton CAN Soar to the Top

The year 2011 will mark a new chapter in the fight against teenage pregnancy in Clayton County. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently awarded the CCBOH approximately \$4.2 million over the next five years to implement Clayton CAN Soar to the Top, a teen outreach and pregnancy prevention program.

As of 2007, the overall rate of teen pregnancy in Clayton County for girls ages 15-17 was 43.9 percent. Out of more than 1,100 nationwide applicants, the CCBOH was one of 94 organizations rewarded with a federal teen pregnancy prevention grant and the only health department in the state of Georgia to receive a grant.

[\\*Story continued on Page 2 \(see “Teen Grant”\)](#)

## **Winter Issue January 2011**



Members of the CCBOH Child Health Services Department pose on Nov. 23 with Thanksgiving food donations gathered for needy Clayton families.

## **New Walking Track Mural**



Artist Melanie Bell stands alongside the new CCBOH indoor walking track mural, created as part of a continued employee wellness initiative. **More on Page 2.**

## Corporate Round Table and Men and Women’s Health Symposium



(Above) Dr. Alpha Fowler Bryan addresses local businesses during the first-ever Corporate Round Table on Oct. 19, 2010. (Below) The new CCBOH

In October, the CCBOH ushered in two first-time events: The Corporate Round Table on Oct. 19; and the Men and Women’s Health Symposium on Oct. 20. Both events took place at the Morrow Center, a new event facility adjacent to Southlake Mall.

During the Corporate Round Table, CCBOH officials and representatives from the local business community discussed how employee health can be improved through the adoption of corporate wellness programs. Used widely overseas and in the United States, corporate wellness programs have been shown to: Decrease stress, high blood pressure, and cardiovascular disease among employees; improve productivity and company morale; and lower the cost of health insurance premiums.

Clayton County District Health Director Dr. Alpha Fowler Bryan also used the Corporate Round Table to unveil the new CCBOH logo. The new company logo was designed by Oliver Imprints Graphic Designs Studio, which won a competitive bid to help rebrand the Board of Health. Over the course of this year, the new logo will be integrated into all outgoing CCBOH publications and correspondence.

[\\*Story continued on Page 2 \(see “Symposium”\)](#)



### **Questions, comments, ideas?**

E-mail Joel Hall, Public Information Officer, at [joelhall@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:joelhall@dhr.state.ga.us) or call (678) 610-7424  
[www.claytoncountypublichealth.org](http://www.claytoncountypublichealth.org)

## New Indoor Walking Track Mural

On Nov. 18, Arts Clayton and CCBOH officials cut the ribbon on the Board of Health's new indoor walking track mural. With the help of Arts Clayton, the CCBOH was able to commission McDonough-based muralist Melanie Bell to paint a 1,440 square-foot mural along the Board of Health's 160-foot indoor walking track to continue its efforts toward improving employee health and wellness.

The mural is part of a statewide initiative to encourage public employees to stay physically fit and does so by recreating the outdoors. The illustrations show people of various ages walking, jogging, playing, and gardening.

"The whole idea was to show people in different areas of life still being active," Bell said. "Hopefully, people just wanting to see what's at the end will keep them walking."



Donovan Bell, 3, helps CCBOH Chairman Eldrin Bell (no relation) cut the ribbon on the new indoor walking track mural on Nov. 18, 2010.

## Teen Grant (continued from page 1)

The CCBOH will implement its teen pregnancy prevention program using the Wyman Teen Outreach Program (TOP) curriculum as a model. Started in 1978 in the St. Louis, Mo. public school system as a way to decrease pregnancy and increase scholastic success among teens, the TOP curriculum works with small groups of teenagers, ages 12-17, to improve their self esteem, assertiveness, communication abilities, and decision-making skills.

Starting this spring, the CCBOH will introduce its first two TOP Club locations: Hearts to Nourish Hope, located at 345 Scott Road in Riverdale; and Ladies of Favor, Inc., located at 1299 Battle Creek Road in Jonesboro. The afterschool mentoring programs will each host a TOP Club consisting of 20 teenagers. Each classroom will focus on instilling a sense of purpose in teens through classroom-based activities, community service, and service learning. In time, the CCBOH plans to institute TOP Clubs at several other locations, including: Prevention PLUS, Inc./Forest Park Street School in Forest Park; The Carl Rhodenizer, Jim Huie, and Virginia Burton Gray Recreations Centers; Clayton County Juvenile Court, and the Clayton County Kinship Care Resource Center in Jonesboro.

"This grant will allow the Clayton County Board of Health the great and invaluable opportunity to empower hundreds of Clayton County youth to make smarter life choices by giving young people the tools and information to make better decisions about their lives," said Clayton County District Health Director Dr. Alpha Fowler Bryan.

For more information about the program, contact **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Manager Jevon Gibson** at (678) 479-2205 or [jevongibson@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:jevongibson@dhr.state.ga.us).

## Symposium (continued from page 1)

The Men and Women's Health Symposium, an all-day workshop, included a series of guest speakers, informative panels, and breakout discussions aimed at finding solutions to the leading health issues negatively impacting the county. The event included: A keynote address on the benefits of healthy eating by Dr. Charles Taylor, a primary care physician with Perimeter North Family Medicine and the medical director of the Taylor-High Preventive Medicine Clinic in Atlanta; a presentation of the CCBOH's first-ever State of Health Report; a presentation on reproductive health disparities by Heidi Williamson, national policy coordinator for SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective; and a discussion about supporting healthy behaviors and lifestyles by improving access to healthcare education by Brian McGregor, PhD, a health policy fellow with Community Voices: Healthcare for the Underserved and an instructor of clinical psychiatry at the Morehouse School of Medicine. Also included were panel discussions on the importance of addressing reproductive health disparities and the role of faith-based and community-based organizations in promoting community wellness, moderated by Riverdale Mayor Evelyn Winn-Dixon and State Rep. Mike Glanton (D-Jonesboro), respectively.

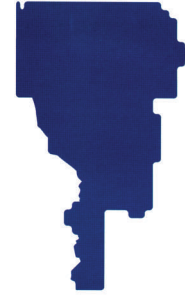
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## State of Health Report

In October, for the first time ever in the 70-year history of the Clayton County Board of Health (CCBOH), the board has released its State of Health Report for Clayton County. This comprehensive report was developed by the Board of Health to heighten the community's awareness about the most prevalent health issues impacting Clayton County. The 17-page report serves as a guide to individuals and policy makers about what factors are negatively impacting the life expectancy of Clayton County residents, such as the rates of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and HIV/AIDS. The report also suggests what individual and collective actions can be done to improve those statistics. The full report is available at [www.claytoncountypublichealth.org](http://www.claytoncountypublichealth.org).

STATE of HEALTH REPORT  
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH



Download the full report at:  
[www.claytoncountypublichealth.org](http://www.claytoncountypublichealth.org)

## Scenes from the Clayton County Board of Health



Rev. Leon Beeler (right), president of the Forest Park Ministers' Association, offers remarks during a panel discussion on Oct. 20 at the first-ever CCBOH Men and Women's Health Symposium.



CCBOH Male Health Educator Kevin Young speaks to a group of young parents on Nov. 4 during a Making Our Mothers Successful (M.O.M.S.) program workshop.



Young mothers receive donated clothing items and gifts on Nov. 4 during a workshop for the Making Our Mothers Successful (M.O.M.S.) program.



State Immunization Director Dr. Anil Mangla (left) receives a flu shot on Dec. 16 in support of CCBOH's "Fight the Flu" campaign.

## Upcoming Health Observances

**January:** American Cervical Cancer Month; Birth Defects Prevention Month; Healthy Weight Week (Jan. 15-21)

**February:** American Heart Month; National Children's Dental Health Month; Give Kids a Smile Day (Feb. 3)

**March:** National Nutrition Month; National 'Kick Butts' Day (March 23), National Poison Prevention Week (March 19-25)

**Look out for the April 2011 Issue!**

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