



COBB & DOUGLAS PUBLIC HEALTH

For Immediate Release

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Cobb Public Health receives \$499,000 grant to create healthier community

MARIETTA, Ga., Sept. 29, 2011 – This week Cobb Public Health was awarded a \$499,000 grant to help create a healthier community for the residents of Cobb County. The funds will be used to educate the community on the benefits of healthy living, and to support a plan designed to increase wellness policies and environmental prevention efforts to reduce chronic disease within the county.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Community Transformation Grant (CTG) will support the design and delivery of state and community projects proven to reduce chronic diseases—such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and cancer.

“This award will take the work that Cobb County’s preventive health providers and community coalitions are already doing to the next level,” said Jack Kennedy, M.D., District Health Director, Cobb & Douglas Public Health. “It will also enable us to continue to build on our unified vision and community health transformation plan that better links preventive services to reduce chronic disease,” he said.

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HEALTHIER COMMUNITY GRANT

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Grant funds will also allow Cobb County partners to build upon a preventive health strategic planning effort kicked off this past April. Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) is a community-wide strategic planning process for improving health. Facilitated by public health leadership, this process helps communities prioritize public health issues and identify resources for addressing them.

According to Dr. Kennedy, prevention efforts will target tobacco-free living, active living and healthy eating, quality preventive services, social and emotional wellness, and healthy and safe physical environments. “These funds will help us go a long way in improving the overall health of our community.”

Funding awards are distributed among state and local government agencies, tribes and territories, and state and local non-profit organizations. Awards went to grantees in 36 states, with only a handful being awarded to individual counties. The grants are expected to run for five years, with projects expanding their scope and reach over time as resources permit.

To learn more about Cobb & Douglas Public Health, visit

www.CobbAndDouglasPublicHealth.org.

For more information about Community Transformation Grants, visit

www.cdc.gov/communitytransformation.

About Cobb & Douglas Public Health

Cobb & Douglas Public Health serves children, adolescents, and adults of Cobb and Douglas Counties in metropolitan Atlanta with personal health services, a pharmacy, prevention and health promotion programs, epidemiological investigations and health assessment, environmental health inspections and investigations, and emergency preparedness planning and response for natural and man-made disasters including bioterrorism. For information, visit www.CobbAndDouglasPublicHealth.org.