



# KENTUCKY

The **Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant** provides funding for health problems in Kentucky addressing a broad spectrum of health issues through three different health programs. Local health departments, which service all 120 counties in Kentucky, address the lack of physical activity in adults and children. Access to health care is addressed through the Health Kentucky Program. The Rape Crisis Centers address rape or attempted rape. Ninety-three percent of funds from the PHHS Block Grant go directly to local communities.

PHHS Block Grant funds allow Kentucky to use dollars **where** we need them and **when** we need them to protect the public's health. Programs that serve our state's unique health needs through the PHHS Block Grant include the following:



## Physical Activity in Adults and Children

PHHS Block Grant funds promote physical activity in communities through policy and environmental change as well as behavioral approaches for community-based interventions addressing physical activity across the life span. Increasing physical activity impacts all major chronic diseases—cardiovascular, diabetes, arthritis, and obesity. Evidence based strategies used include the following:

- **TAKE 10!** initiative provides teachers with ideas for including physical activity in classroom learning. Teacher evaluations noted a positive change in the physical activity behaviors of some overweight students and reported that students were more alert during the day. Health department staff worked with school administrators to implement a long-range plan to increase physical activity and improve student health and well-being.
- The **Mayors Healthy Hometown Movement (MHMM)** in the Louisville Metro area, led by the Louisville Metro Health Department, unites diverse community partners to improve the health status of citizens in the area. This program was chosen as a finalist for the 2006 Awards for Municipal Excellence.



## Health Care Access

PHHS Block Grant funds provide services for adults aged 18 to 64 years who are uninsured and would not otherwise receive these services. In collaboration with Health Kentucky, volunteer health care providers and pharmacies are recruited to provide services and free prescription medications. Fiscal year (FY)2006 impact figures include the following:

- 97,000 free prescriptions were filled at participating pharmacies with a value of over \$9 million.
- Participating physicians, dentists, and pharmacies provided free services through 2,507 referrals from the toll free Kentucky Physicians Care Hotline.



## Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Program—Rape Crisis Centers

Rape Crisis Centers in Kentucky developed a 24-hour hotline to link survivors of sexual assault and their friends and family to specialized support services such as advocacy and crisis intervention at no cost to the client. PHHS Block Grant funds help maintain these services for victims and their family members at the state's 13 rape crisis centers. In FY2006 Kentucky Rape Crisis Centers utilized PHHS Grant funds to provide 3,737 legal advocacy services, 728 medical advocacy services and to respond to 3,508 crisis calls.

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services  
Department for Public Health

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## Helping the Uninsured in Kentucky

### Issue:

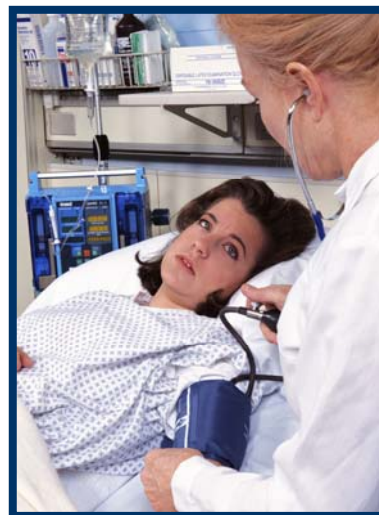
Overweight, diabetic, high blood pressure, and no health insurance describe many of Kentucky's 576,500 uninsured, and that is about 14.3% of the state's population.

- 35% do not have a medical home, which increases the likelihood of poorer health outcomes.
- 13% cite the Emergency Room as their regular caregiver.
- Many report they lack the necessary resources to purchase prescribed medications.

Pharmaceutical companies have Patient Assistance Programs available for low-income persons but the complicated paperwork and frequent rule changes leave many individuals with no means of getting needed medications.

### Intervention:

Over the past two years, \$75,000 of the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant funds have gone to Health Kentucky, Inc., a nonprofit charitable organization that coordinates a statewide network of volunteer providers through the Kentucky Physicians Care Program. The Kentucky Physicians Care provider network includes physicians, dentists, pharmacies, and pharmaceutical companies. Health Kentucky, Inc. works in collaboration with other public and private organizations that address the health care needs of the poor and uninsured.



Health Kentucky, Inc. provides—

- Public awareness campaigns using radio, television spots, signage, and
- Provider recruitment through the awareness campaigns targeting medical audiences.

### Impact:

In 2004, there were 41,710 uninsured Kentucky residents enrolled in the Kentucky Physician Care Program. The program provided eligible clients 2,507 referrals for free services to participating physicians, dentists, and pharmacies through the toll free Kentucky Physicians Care Hotline. About 97,799 free prescriptions were filled at participating pharmacies with a value of \$9,642,208.

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