



### **Mission:**

The North Carolina Alliance for Health (NCAH) works to improve the health of North Carolinians by advocating policies that promote wellness and reduce the impact of tobacco use and obesity.

### **Purpose:**

The North Carolina Alliance for Health is an independent, statewide coalition of individuals, businesses, and organizations (public, private, professional and non-profit) working together to advocate for health improvement policies before North Carolina's legislative and executive branches. Currently the NCAH has more than 75 organizations as members and partners.

### **Guiding Principles:**

The Alliance aims to:

- Engage in proactive advocacy for policies and positions to reduce the impact of tobacco use and obesity that are agreed upon by the Alliance membership.
- Develop and promote long and short-term policy goals to reduce tobacco use and obesity.
- Develop long and short-term strategies to achieve our policy goals.
- Encourage collaboration among all organizations and individuals interested in reducing tobacco use and obesity.
- Inform the public about tobacco-related and healthy weight issues.
- Ensure adequate sustainable funding for programs and services in NC to reduce tobacco use and obesity.

### **Governance and Policy Process:**

The North Carolina Alliance for Health began in May 2002. The Alliance strives to make decisions by consensus. If consensus cannot be achieved, organizations and individuals with membership in good standing may vote. Organizations and individuals that have paid membership dues (or communicated with the treasurer regarding hardship) and returned the attached Membership Application Form are considered voting members. Policy committees of the Alliance are responsible for developing recommendations for policy positions for each General Assembly session. Policy committees also guide the development and implementation of strategies to achieve the coalition's policy positions. Organizational committees addressing Governance, Membership and Finance work on an ad hoc basis to ensure the success of the Alliance in its future policy efforts.

### **Membership Meetings:**

The Alliance holds quarterly membership meetings generally scheduled for the FIRST Monday of the month from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the American Heart Association located in Research Triangle Park.

**2008 Meeting Dates: July 7 and October 6 from 1:30 – 3:30 pm at AHA**

919-463-8328 or e-mail [ncalliance@heart.org](mailto:ncalliance@heart.org) for more information.

[www.ncallianceforhealth.org](http://www.ncallianceforhealth.org)

**The following organizations are active Alliance members:**

American Cancer Society  
 American Diabetes Association  
 American Heart Association  
 Be Active, NC  
 Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids  
 The Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence  
 The Covenant with North Carolina's Children  
 Eastern District NC Public Health Association  
 ENTER (ETS Training, Education & Research) Program  
 First Health of the Carolinas  
 Flynt Mullinix Health Care Consulting, Inc  
 Healthy Carolinians  
 March of Dimes  
 NC American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NC AAHPERD)  
 NC Association of Local Health Directors  
 NC Pediatric Society  
 NC Prevention Partners  
 NC Public Health Association  
 NC Society for Public Health Education  
 School Health Association of North Carolina  
 State Employees Association of NC (SEANC)  
 And growing . . . .

<b>Additional Tobacco Policy Partners:</b>	<b>Additional Obesity Policy Partners:</b>
AARP Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition American Lung Association Clay County Tobacco Awareness Group Common Cause NC El Pueblo League of Women Voters of North Carolina Mental Health Association of NC National Association of Social Workers – NC Chapter NC Academy of Family Physicians NC Association of Educators (NCAE) NC Association of Student Assistance Programs NC Child Care Coalition NC Consumers Council NC Council of Churches NC Dental Hygiene Association NC Health Access Coalition NC Medical Society NC School Board Association SAVE (of NC GASP) TAP (Tobacco Awareness Program in Jacksonville) Teens Against Tobacco Use (Greenville) Tobacco Free for Life And many local medical societies and boards of health	American Heart Association Be Active, NC The Carolina's Center for Medical Excellence The Covenant with North Carolina's Children First Health of the Carolinas Healthy Carolinians John Rex Endowment NC American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NC AAHPERD) School Nutrition Association of NC (SNA-NC) Wake Med

Join us! Call 919-463-8328 or e-mail [ncalliance@heart.org](mailto:ncalliance@heart.org) for more information.  
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## **NC Alliance for Health 2008 Policy Priorities**

### **Tobacco-Use Prevention Policy Priorities:**

- Protect public health by eliminating exposure to secondhand smoke.
  - Advocate for legislation that would make all NC worksites and public places 100% smoke-free.
  - Overturn Preemption: Advocate for legislation that restores authority to local decision-makers to pass measures protecting the public from exposure to secondhand smoke in their communities.
  - Incremental secondhand smoke policy goals for the 2008 short session include:
    - Require all vehicles owned and operated by the state be 100% smoke-free and clarify local governments have authority to make vehicles owned and operated by local governments 100% smoke-free;
    - Establish a 100% tobacco-free perimeter around all state government buildings and grant authority to local governments to implement and enforce 100% tobacco-free perimeters around local government buildings; and,
    - Grant community colleges the clear authority to prohibit smoking on the grounds of community college campuses.
- Support an increase in North Carolina's cigarette excise tax BY at least 75 cents.
- Support the use of Tobacco Settlement Funds for programs and policies aimed at preventing and reducing tobacco use, including adequate and sustained funding for Vision 2010.

### **Obesity Prevention Policy Priorities:**

- Establish statewide "quality" physical education standards in NC's Basic Education Program;
- Fund baseline childhood obesity data collection; and,
- Implement and fully fund Child Nutrition Standards for grades K – 5.