

## Jackson County Department of Public Health

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### JCDPH RECOMMENDED TO BE REACCREDITED WITH HONORS

The Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) was recently recommended to be Reaccredited with Honors from the North Carolina Division of Public Health and the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors. This process is a mandatory, standards-based systems for gauging the capacity of a local health department's ability to perform at a prescribed, basic level of quality the three core functions of assessment, assurance, and policy development and the ten essential services as detailed in the National Public Health Performance Standards Program.

A new designation, Reaccredited with Honors, was initiated in fall 2017 to recognize local health departments that surpass the requirements. JCDPH is honored to be one of the few health departments to have received this designation.

"We are delighted to have received this recommendation," said Health Services Manager and Co-Agency Accreditation Coordinator Anna Lippard. "This news validates all the hard work and effort that the staff of the Health Department puts forth every day."

During reaccreditation, programs, agencies and systems are reviewed to ensure that uniform standards are being met. The lengthy process began with a self-assessment by Health Department staff and ends with a site visit by a multidisciplinary team of peer volunteers. The team reviews records, policies, and operating procedures while also conducting interviews with staff, community partners, and Governing Body members. Based on all the evidence presented, the Site Visit Team recommended the Jackson County Department of Public Health for full re-accreditation with honors status. Health Director, Shelley Carraway, will attend an Accreditation Board meeting on May 10, 2019 in Raleigh, NC to formally accept the recommendation for re-accreditation.

"It is obvious that the Health Department staff works hard to promote public health within our community," said Deputy Health Director and Co-Agency Accreditation Coordinator Melissa McKnight. "We are excited about the outcome."

For questions about the reaccreditation process for local health departments, call 828-586-8994.

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