

# Maternal & Child Health Initiatives

The overarching goal for the maternal and child initiatives is to improve the healthy development, health, safety, and well-being of adolescents in Northampton County. We are approaching this goal by building capacity through the Bethlehem Partnership for a Healthy Community to enhance adolescent health through a collaborative process using a holistic Adopt a School model and creating report cards highlighting Adopt a School as well as critical health priority areas for adolescents. We are also implementing strategies to promote strong families and communities to support child and adolescent health through PAT, NFP, PATH and VNAC for healthy youth development, supporting school-based models to provide family-oriented services in underserved neighborhoods, and by promoting the use and expansion of mobile dental, medical, and vision van programs in Northampton County.

In order to achieve this goal we will continue to promote healthy youth development through positive job training and employment opportunities, while supporting the Adolescent Career Mentoring Initiatives, including School-to-Work, Next Steps and Health Career Exploration Programs. Collaboration with other community agencies support established initiatives and aid in the exploration of opportunities to improve nutrition/physical activity for adolescents in Northampton County. The Live Your Life Campaign will extend through adolescent health initiatives and further promote policy and advocacy efforts focused on child and adolescent health through the Bethlehem Partnership.