

SHEPARD CANCER FOUNDATION



Vidant Beaufort Hospital – a campus of Vidant Medical Center is proud to be on the road to improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve. A 35-foot RV, transformed into a mobile wellness unit travels the roads throughout Beaufort and Hyde Counties offering free community health and cancer screenings to identify risk factors of chronic disease and cancer at its earliest stages.

The Community Health Improvement Coach or affectionately referred to as CHIC, celebrated its debut tour in mid-September traveling throughout Beaufort and Hyde counties to introduce this community resource to the rural communities we serve.

Specific services provided on the coach include adult wellness screenings, which involve assessments of body mass index, blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol, and clinical breast exams and skin cancer screenings. In addition, health education, including colorectal cancer education using Vidant's 'colossal colon' display, stroke awareness education, tips about physical activity, diet, nutrition and weight management, and the importance of not smoking are also provided.

A vision that began in the summer of 2017 is now a dream come true for the team at Vidant Beaufort. This vision would have never become a reality without the unwavering support and encouragement from the Shepard Cancer Foundation Board of Directors and the Vidant Health Foundation. In 2019, our community health improvement work had grown exponentially since it began in 2015 and was making a real difference in the lives of those we touched. However, we knew there were so many more people we could affect if we could reach the most rural areas of Beaufort and Hyde counties.

Meeting community members where they live, pray, play, shop and learn is a most effective way to connect and to share information about chronic disease and cancer prevention and early detection. The community health improvement coach is equipped with screening stations to assess for risk of heart disease, stroke, chronic lung disease and diabetes, as well as an exam room for providing various cancer screenings such as breast and skin cancer. There is also a mini-kitchen on board, including a refrigerator, which allows us to provide healthy cooking demonstrations as well as store flu and COVID vaccines for distribution to the community.



A project of this magnitude would not be possible without the generous contributions by donors and organizations who believe in the mission of Vidant Health – improving the health and well-being of eastern North Carolina. 100% of the funds needed to purchase, renovate, equip and brand the RV were donated by generous contributions made to the Shepard Cancer Foundation and the Vidant Health Foundation by the following individuals and organizations:

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 Cynthia and Fred Barrett
 Crisp RV
 Connie and Jim Hackney
 Nancy and Larry Howard
 Lights of Love Endowment
 Shirley and Ed Mann
 Thelma Gene and Jack Piland
 Sandra and Bruce Swan
 Deborah Page and Walter Wright

The Vidant Beaufort team would like to thank the donors and those who inspired, encouraged and believed in this project since its inception and they look forward to making a real difference in the lives of the people and communities they serve.

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