



Hall County Men's Health Initiative

Wellness Is A Lifelong Journey!

August , 2005

A Community
Partnership

Northeast Georgia
Medical Center
770-535-3553

Good News
Clinics
770-297-5040

Hall County
Health Department
770-531-5600

1280 Athens Street
Gainesville, GA
30501

The Hall County Men's Health Initiative needs your help. A core sector of the community including health care providers, school officials, nonprofit agencies, civic and social organizations and individuals, have come together to address a neglected major issue... men's health. Almost every health benchmark places males at the bottom of the ladder. We need the faith community because it has always addressed the whole person, the whole family. It has been a healing place, restoring wholeness and community, where there were brokenness and lack. The faith community has a natural credibility within communities, and the practice of health care needs the collaboration of people of faith- who will amplify messages of a system for community health. The slogan of this initiative is "*Wellness: mind, body, spirit---a lifelong journey.*"

Our goal is not to start a new organization, but rather to develop a movement that will support and encourage existing community groups to improve upon or add men's health as a part of their mission. We have established a men's health fund at the North Georgia Community Foundation to receive tax-deductible contributions to help support and encourage the community to address men's health issues. We will hold three health screenings, September 10, 20, and 27, 2005 to focus on the needs of all men, but especially uninsured and minority men. We will have a men's health luncheon to increase awareness and share the status of men's health September 22, 2005.

We need the help of the faith community in the following ways:

- a. Identify a person in your congregation that would be willing to work with us as we move this initiative forward.
- b. Contribute at least \$100.00 to the men's health fund as a church and encourage individual members that may want to support this effort to give.
- c. Identify and encourage persons that need to receive screening services to call and make an appointment at one of the scheduled sites.
- d. Share with us things that you currently do that support men's health, for example, conferences, men's health day, etc.

This is a critical time, but when we walk together and do not allow ourselves to get weary, we can be agents of transformation in our communities, and do what we're called to do: bring healing to the land.

Sincerely

Eugene Green, Pastor
St. John Baptist Church
Committee Member