

**#HousingIs2021** 



# Addressing the Digital Divide

# Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington, North Carolina

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# City of Wilmington, North Carolina

A port city located in southeastern North Carolina

51,316 Households
8<sup>th</sup> Largest City in North Carolina
Currently experiencing rapid growth of over 10%
2019 Median Household Income was \$43,450







# Wilmington Housing Authority

#### **Unit Summary**

Public Housing, Multi Family & Tax Credit Housing1,246Housing Choice Vouchers2,340Total Households3,586



Elderly Households16%Disabled Households20%





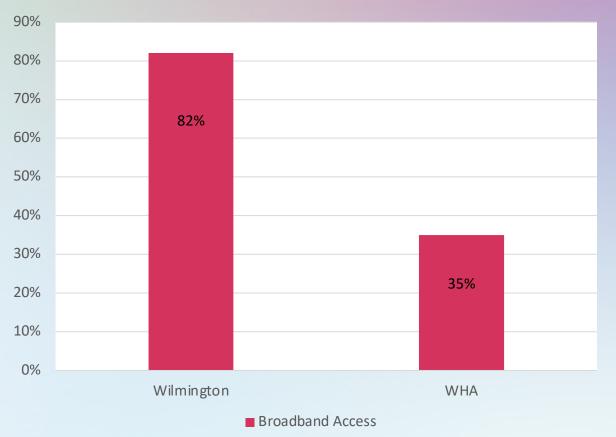


- 95% Households speak English as Primary Language
- 75% Households have not attended higher education, vocational training or a job training program in the last year
- 29% Employed households are full time with 67% employed part time
- 35% Households have broadband access
- 61% Households have indicated an interest in job training









#### **Broadband Access**



#### **NEW HANOVER COUNTY SCHOOLS**

NHCS worked with all Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher youth to provide a device and Wifi Hot Spot if necessary.







WHA provided the on-site Brigade Boys & Girls Club new Ipads to access school work virtually.

WHA partnered with Resident Organizations and Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance to provide school supplies for virtual learning.



# WHA iPad Lending Program

WHA has (10) new iPads with built in internet access available for residents to check out.

iPads can be checked out for a 2 week period.

Instruction is available for those who may need it.



- Access to e-health platforms
- Access to family communication
- Access to job readiness
- Access to education
- Access to informatin

### **DRIVERS OF HEALTH**

While high-quality medical care is crucial, up to 80 percent of a person's health is determined by social and environmental factors.

#### Healthy Blue will address drivers of health by:

- Offering value-added services as part of our health plan
- Identifying and addressing drivers of health through case management screenings
- Collaborating with NCDHHS in the Healthy Opportunity Pilots
- Working with organizations like North Carolina Integrated Care for Kids (NC InCK) on innovative models of care



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## HEALTHY OPPORTUNITY PILOTS: THE PHP'S ROLE

All of North Carolina's managed care plans – known as Prepaid Health Plans (PHPs) – will have a role in addressing the medical and non-medical factors that drive health outcomes and costs:

PHPs will implement a standardized screening tool (delivered via health management programs).

Healthy Blue

The screening tool assesses non-medical needs, such as unstable housing, transportation insecurity, insufficient food and interpersonal violence.

Where identified, PHPs will connect beneficiaries to community resources using the Healthy Opportunity Pilot Resource Platform. And in high-need cases, provide more support, such as navigating to a local food back or domestic violence shelter.

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# HEALTHY BLUE'S VALUE ADDED SERVICES\*



#### **Housing Assistance**

- Up to \$1,500 to help with home repairs or modifications to help members stay in or return to their home
- Up to \$200 to support independent living by helping to cover unexpected home expenses
- Up to \$500 to help homeless members transition to more permanent housing
- Up to \$500 for those transitioning from inpatient setting and lack a safe place to continue recovery

#### \* Some benefits have eligibility requirements or are only available in certain areas.

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# HEALTHY OPPORTUNITY PILOTS: HOW THEY WILL WORK

NC will launch Healthy Opportunity Pilots in 2 to 3 geographic areas of the state to test evidence-based interventions designed to reduce costs and improve health by more intensely addressing these for eligible Medicaid beneficiaries:

- Housing instability
- Transportation insecurity
- Food insecurity
- Interpersonal violence
- Toxic stress

The federal government has authorized up to \$650 million in state and federal Medicaid funding for pilots over 5 years.

PHPs will implement the pilots in collaboration with a network of human service organizations (e.g., community-based organizations and social services agencies) established and overseen by Lead Pilot Entities (LPEs).

Assessments will track enrollees' health outcomes and costs to determine which interventions are most and least effective, enabling NC to shift pilot dollars to interventions with a demonstrated impact on cost and outcomes.

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