

1 in 4 Deaths in North Carolina is attributed to heart disease and stroke*

In the face of growing scientific evidence that heart disease and stroke can be prevented, the North Carolina Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force (HDSPTF) was established by the General Assembly in 1995. It has since been renamed the **Justus-Warren HDSP Task Force (JWTF)**, in honor of two early legislative leaders, the late Senator Ed Warren (D) of Pitt County and Representative Larry Justus (R) of Hendersonville. The work of the JWTF focuses on policy, environmental, and systems-level change to create communities, workplaces, schools and health care systems that are supportive of cardiovascular health promotion and disease prevention.

The Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force

Better lives. Brighter futures. Let's keep it going.



N.C. General Assembly passes legislation establishing N.C. Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Task Force.



The first Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding became available for state Cardiovascular Health (CVH) programs. Because of the activities, leadership, and support of the Task Force and its partners for improved cardiovascular health, North Carolina was one of the first two states to be awarded CDC funding at the highest or comprehensive level (\$1.25 million a year for five years) for such a program.



Over the ensuing 15 years, the state has received additional CDC funding for a Tri-State Stroke Network (with S.C. and G.A., 2000-2012), and a Paul Coverdell National Stroke Registry, now named the N.C. Stroke Care Collaborative (ongoing), along with other special supplemental project awards.



The Task Force continues to play a vital role in pulling together a wide group of partners, experts and stakeholders to plan and implement coordinated strategies to address two of the top causes of deaths, disabilities, hospitalizations, and costs in this state.



www.StartWithYourHeart.com

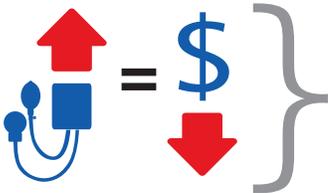
*The legislatively mandated Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force provides statewide leadership for the prevention of cardiovascular disease. (Excerpt: *NC Med J.* 2012;73(6):457-460).

Health Promotion, Disease Prevention

North Carolina has been a national leader in cardiovascular health promotion since 1998, providing a model for the organization, implementation, and evaluation of a comprehensive, evidence-based program.



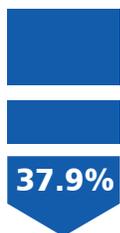
Recently retired JWTF Chairman, Senator Bill Purcell, M.D., stated in 2009 that of all the many commissions, committees, and task forces he has worked with in our state, the JWTF has been the most effective in achieving its goals.



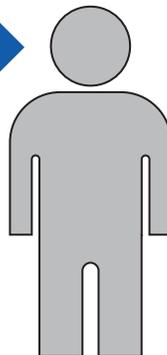
Did You Know?

Preventing chronic disease and improving quality of care provide major opportunities to cut health care costs, especially for the most prevalent, preventable and costly of the chronic conditions, **heart disease and stroke.**

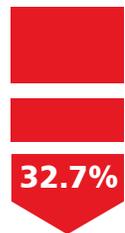
Data supports North Carolina's success



Stroke death rates in the state declined at a rate greater than the national average, 37.9% since 2000.



North Carolina's death rate for heart disease has declined 32.7% since 2000.



For the first time in the history of the state, heart disease became the number two cause of death (falling below all cancer deaths combined) in 2006. North Carolina was the first state in the southeast to achieve this milestone.



Following 2006, heart disease temporarily returned as the top N.C. killer but has stabilized as the second leading cause of death since 2009.

As a result, the state achieved its Healthy People 2010 goal for this measure in 2009.

