Partnership for Community Prosperity
Cleveland County

Partners, Cleveland County Schools, Cleveland County government, and Benchmarks joined forces to create the Partnership for Community Prosperity Project – a long-term health improvement initiative to address the county’s challenging social factors. The project is focused on the number of children in poverty, the number of single-parent households, the number of teens giving birth, and workforce readiness. Partners provided funding to hire Chris Gash as the community coordinator for the project. “This will be a life-changing project for Cleveland County,” said Gash.

Embedded Therapist Partnerships
Gaston and Lincoln Counties

Partners is teaming up with Departments of Social Services (DSS) and County Health Departments to give families immediate access to behavioral health and crisis services. The partnerships provide funding for licensed therapists to assess the behavioral health needs of high-risk foster children and their families. Parents and children have access to a behavioral health professional when they visit the DSS office or health department. Because the service is funded by Partners, the program eliminates some insurance barriers and increases the number of families getting help.

Integrated Care Centers
Burke, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, and Lincoln Counties


Cleveland County Schools is extremely excited about the opportunities presented with this partnership,” said Dr. Stephen Fisher, Cleveland County Schools Superintendent. “The ability to enhance our community is most exciting. Cleveland County is blessed to have so many community agencies willing to partner together to build a better tomorrow for everyone.
These Integrated Care Centers provide one, convenient location for people seeking help with addiction, mental illness, or other behavioral health issues. Several health care providers share the space in each center welcoming walk-ins, offering appointments, and connecting individuals with the care they need most.

Of the five centers, Burke Integrated Health is the first to offer both behavioral and physical health care in one place. In the future, all of Partners’ Integrated Care Centers will integrate behavioral and physical health care services for their communities.

Trauma-Informed Care for Children
Cleveland County

Partners is collaborating with local organizations to help transform the child welfare and behavioral health care systems in Cleveland County. The goal is to prevent and treat childhood exposure to trauma and its impact on lifelong well-being. By implementing the use of trauma-informed screenings and assessments, this project will improve child outcomes and reduce high end services over time.

Building Affordable Housing
Burke, Gaston, and Iredell Counties

Three counties in Partners’ service area are experiencing a shortage of affordable supportive housing options, specifically Burke, Gaston, and Iredell counties. Partners is providing match funding to develop more one bedroom rental units, which is the type of housing most needed by people recovering from addiction or coping with mental illnesses.