

ARKANSAS TOBACCO SETTLEMENT COMMISSION: IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ARKANSANS

THE ATSC PROGRAMS: BENTON COUNTY

Through the years, Arkansas has been the only state to use 100% of its funding from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement to improve the health of its citizens. While other states have used MSA funds for various projects, Arkansans voted to dedicate all of these dollars to funding, addressing, and improving health in our state.

Over a three-year period, **Benton County** received a total of **\$2,712,929** from these programs. Below is a breakdown of funding for Benton County by each program.

TOBACCO PREVENTION & CESSATION PROGRAM

TPCP has several components aimed at reducing tobacco use by Arkansans. TPCP is charged with developing and implementing a statewide, comprehensive tobacco education, prevention and cessation program. Benton County had use of a regionally funded Health Nurse Specialist and a Health Promotion Specialist, valued at \$198,140 in addition to \$113,400 in funded grantees.

UAMS COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The COPH aims to meet the public health workforce needs for the future and demonstrate how public health approaches can address the health needs of Arkansans via model community programs. Overall, the College of Public Health has brought \$93,919,420 in funding to the state of Arkansas. Two students from Benton County were enrolled at one of the COPH campuses.

DELTA AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

The Delta AHEC mainly works within seven counties in east Arkansas, providing health education services to residents. Collectively, \$8,636,055 in funding has been provided in this delta region of the state.

ARKANSAS BIOSCIENCES INSTITUTE

The ABI is an agricultural and medical research consortium dedicated to improving the health of Arkansans. ABI work has created 610 full-time jobs in Arkansas. Eight students from Benton County were enrolled at an ABI campus in the past three years. Additionally, ABI has brought \$87 million in matching grant and research funds into the Arkansas economy.



ARKANSAS AGING INITIATIVE

The AAI aims to improve health outcomes of Arkansas seniors residing in rural areas through interdisciplinary clinical care and innovative education programs. Benton County received \$243,433 in funding and serviced 13,928 people in a three-year period.

MINORITY HEALTH INITIATIVE

MHI focuses on minimizing health disparities among minorities within Arkansas. MHI has provided contracts, health fairs and outreach to Benton County valued at \$15,400 during this three-year period.

MEDICAID EXPANSION PROGRAM

MEP is a separate and distinct component of the Arkansas Medicaid program that aims to improve the health of Arkansans by expanding health care coverage and benefits to specific populations, beyond traditional Medicaid coverage directed at Arkansas seniors, pregnant women, and individuals 19-64 without health insurance. A total of \$2,142,556 was provided to Benton County through these services over this same timeframe.

