

Organization: Rowan County Health Department

County: Rowan**Address:** 1811 E. Innes St.
Salisbury, N.C. 28146**Phone:** 704-216-8813**Website:**<http://www.co.rowan.nc.us/GOVERNMENT/Departments/HealthDepartment/tabid/139/Default.aspx>**Project:** Visit Tracker© Case Management Software and Gardasil ® Vaccines*****Below are excerpts from their final report*****

About the Project: With grant funds we contracted with DataKeeper Technologies to add an electronic client narrative to the Visit Tracker © Case Management Software application. The application enabled Health Link Community Health Workers to more efficiently and more accurately document the provision of intensive family support services to low-income women of childbearing age and families with young children. In addition, the health department purchased Gardasil vaccine for seven low-income family planning clients (three doses per client).

Successes: For the Health Link program, the improved Visit Tracker © Case Management Software application made it much easier and faster for community health workers to document services and support clients. This improved morale among staff. By reducing the amount of time spent entering data into the software application, staff had more time to serve Health Link clients.

In addition, families enrolled in Health Link adopted a range of health behaviors contributing to improved maternal and child health outcomes. Adopted health practices included: consistently using an effective birth control method, obtaining healthcare insurance, breastfeeding, reducing infant/child exposure to secondhand smoke, women consuming folic acid daily, providing a safe sleep environment to prevent SIDS, and securing timely prenatal care.

Our Family Planning and Women's Health Services staff felt much better about being able to more fully serve the healthcare needs of our clients by providing a vaccine known to protect women from cervical cancer. Until funding was provided by the N.C. Healthy Start Foundation, the vaccine was unaffordable for indigent clients requesting the vaccine from the health department.

