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Healthy Communities

A Word from our Director:

It is our mission and goal to ensure everyone has the opportunity to a healthy life in a safe environment. The Public Health workforce advocates to address needs that contribute to poor health and disease among families and individuals within our communities. Take this week to celebrate our successes and further reflect on additional opportunities to improve the health of Georgians and our nation.

This year we will focus on daily themes that address health risks, building safe environments and partnership that are helping to strengthen our support and services for our communities. Let's take action by sharing our experiences and passions with our neighbors and friends so that we can make an even greater difference each day. Southeast Health District has over 300 employees in county health departments and programs in 16 counties. The dedication and dependability of our employees have long enabled the Southeast Health District to meet the challenges and public health issues through innovation, collaboration, preparedness planning and quality care.

To begin National Public Health Week, I want to personally and sincerely thank each of you for your dedication and concern for our citizens and for your diligence in making our communities healthier and safer every single day.

Respectfully,

Rosemarie D. Parks



Rosemarie D. Parks, M.D., M.P.H.

The American Public Health Association states:

It's clear: People's health, longevity and well-being are connected to their communities — the places we live, learn, work, worship and play. For example, national health officials report at least 4 million U.S. households are home to children who are being exposed to high levels of lead, and about 6 million U.S. homes are considered substandard. Exposure to air pollution is linked to serious respiratory conditions such as asthma, and millions of Americans still get their drinking water through lead pipes. Communities of color often face greater community health risks — such as poorer air quality — and have fewer health-promoting opportunities — such as safe places to walk — than their white counterparts.

<http://nphw.org/-/media/images/topics/healthiest-nation/bluehouse.ashx?la=en&hash=0D3B645A7DA24021E11625E7B5AAF576730AEB2C>