

# ASPPH Presents Webinar Series

## *Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) and the Development of Collect SMART: Survey Management and Response Tools for Assessing the Health of Your Community*

Tuesday, July 28, 2015  
3:00-4:00 pm Eastern

ASPPH.ORG

1900 M Street NW, Suite 710

Washington, DC 20036

Tel: (202) 296-1099

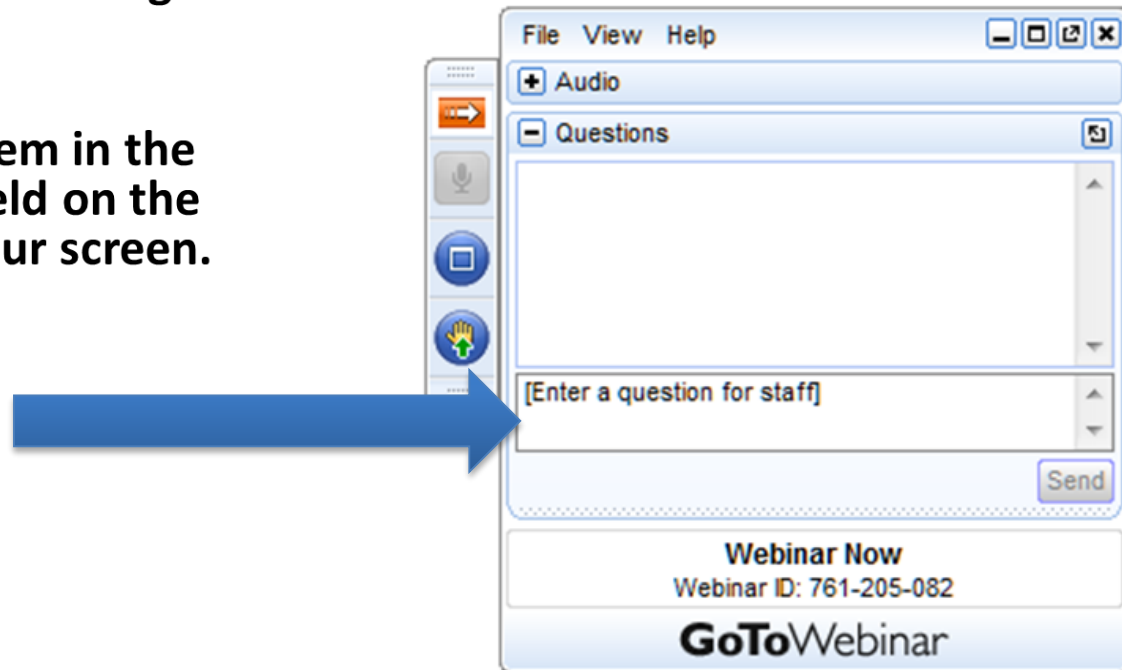
Fax: (202) 296-1252

**ASPPH** Presents  
 **WEBINAR**

# Method for Submitting Questions

## Join the Conversation...

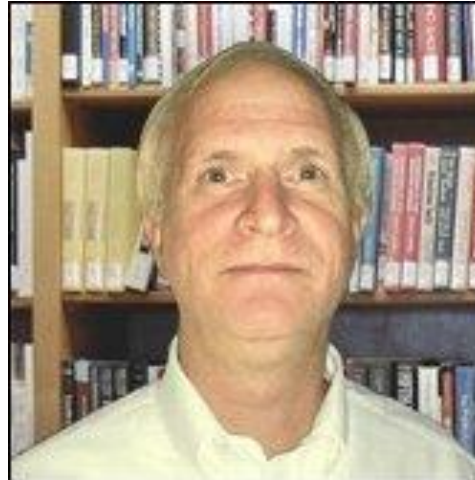
- You can ask questions in writing anytime during the webinar.
- Simply type them in the “Questions” field on the right side of your screen.



# Today's Presenters



**Matthew Simon, MA**  
University of North Carolina  
Gillings School of Global Public  
Health, Preparedness and  
Emergency Response Learning  
Center (UNC PERLC)



**David Zane, MS**  
Health Emergency Preparedness  
and Response Section, Division  
for Regional & Local Health  
Services, Texas Department of  
State Health Services



**Michael Zelek, MPH**  
Chatham County Public  
Health Department, North  
Carolina



# Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) and the development of *Collect SMART*:

Survey Management and Response Tools  
for assessing the health of your community

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**Matt Simon, MA, GISP**

North Carolina Institute for Public Health

**David Zane, MS**

Texas Department of State Health Services

**Michael Zelek, MPH**

Chatham County, NC Health Department

July 28, 2015

# North Carolina Institute for Public Health (NCIPH)

- Service arm of the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC-Chapel Hill
- Since 1999 has served as a bridge between academia and partners in community organizations and government agencies

*Deliver training, conduct research and provide technical assistance to transform the practice of public health for all*

# Learning Objectives

- Describe the purpose of Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER)
- Provide examples of how CASPER has been used for post-disaster assessments and routine community health needs assessments
- Discuss the Collect SMART mobile app and project management dashboard designed to expand local capacities to collect community health data

# Statement of Need

Validated community sampling methods are needed to collect accurate, high quality primary data that don't require extensive expertise in population sampling, geographic information systems and costly software and computer equipment for mapping, data collection and statistical analysis.

## Survey Management System

### Sample Selection and data management

HOME CONTACT US LOGOUT

#### Create New Project

Please Enter New Project Name:(up to 64 characters)  
Community Health Survey

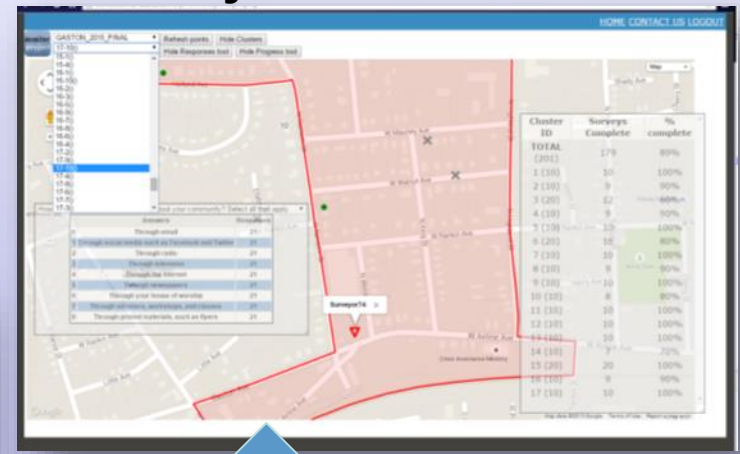
Please Enter Survey Date 2015-05-22

Please select sites for survey from the following options:

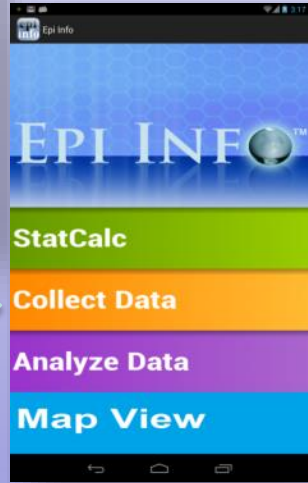
SELECT REGION (STATE/COUNTY OR ZIPCODE)	GENERATE CLUSTERS
State : New Hampshire	
Select County/Countries : Belknap County Carroll County Cheshire County Coos County Grafton County	Selected: <b>Region</b> Population HHS Gaston County 206086 88686
Select Zipcodes(s) : 03031 03032 03033 03034 03036	Enter the Number of Clusters you wish to generate (default 30): 30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require minimum of 7 Housing Units per cluster <input type="checkbox"/> Use Block Groups <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO GENERATE CLUSTERS</a>

To select multiple options:  
Hold down the control (ctrl) button and click  
(For Mac: Hold down the command button)

### Project Dashboard



### Mobile App



### Survey Collection and Coordination Tools



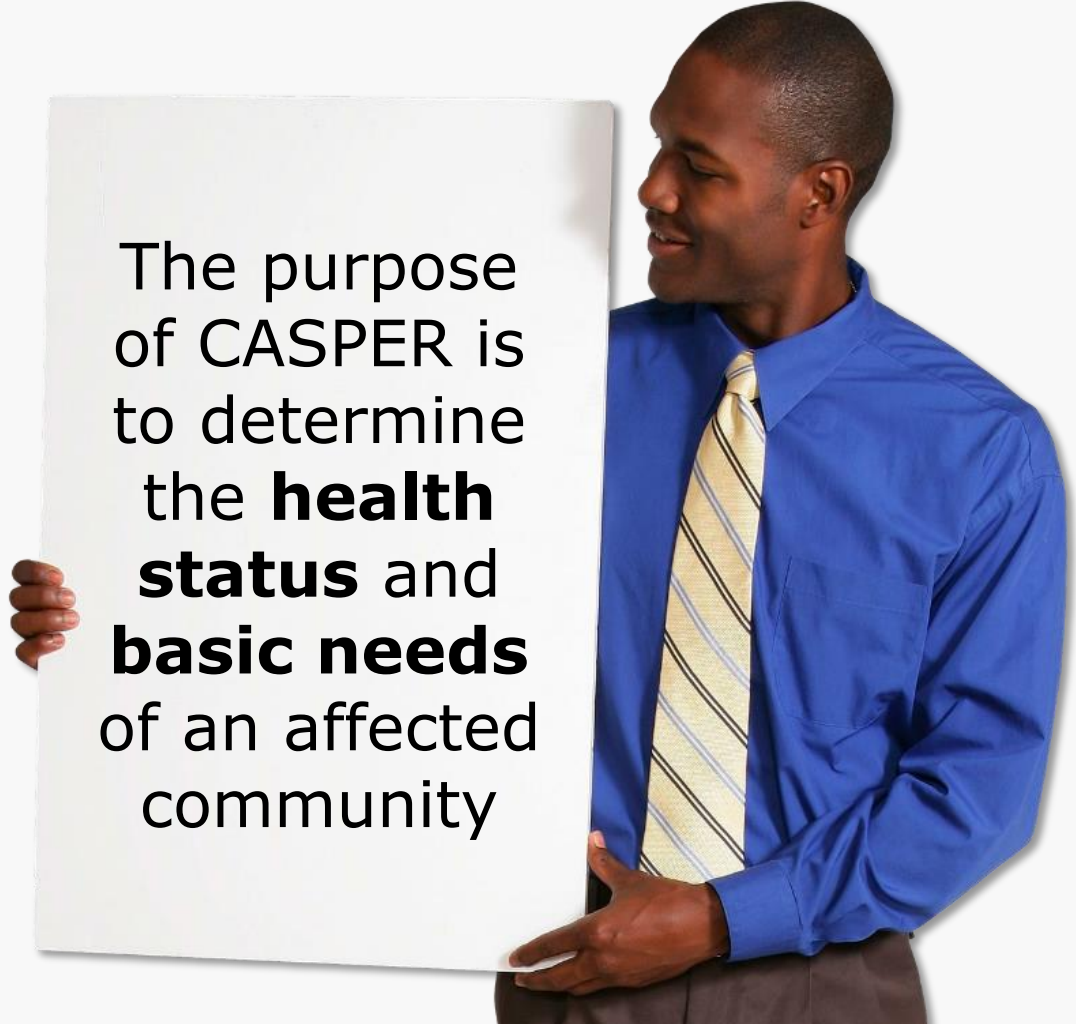
# What is CASPER?

**C**ommunity  
**AS**ssessment for  
**P**ublic Health  
**E**mergency  
**R**esponse

“A specific set of tools designed to provide quick, inexpensive, accurate, and reliable household-based public health information about communities affected by natural or man-made disasters.”

CDC, 2012

# Purpose of CASPER

A man in a blue shirt and striped tie is holding a large white sign. The sign contains text about the purpose of CASPER.

The purpose of CASPER is to determine the **health status** and **basic needs** of an affected community

# Why Use CASPER Sampling Method?

- Validated for rapid assessments and estimation of population-level public health needs<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Produces valid and precise estimates (+/- 10%)<sup>3</sup>
- Alternative to simple random and convenience sampling
  - Reduces travel time and costs
  - Just the right number of surveys
    - SRS < Cluster < Convenience

1. Malilay J, Flanders WD, Brogan D. A modified cluster-sampling method for post-disaster rapid assessment of needs. *Bull World Health Organ.* 1996; 74(4): 399-405.

2. Frerichs RR, Shaheen MA. Small-community-based surveys. *Annual Rev Public Health* 22, 231-47, 2001.

3. Binkin N, Sullivan K, Staehling N, Nieburg P. (1992). Rapid nutrition surveys: how many clusters are enough? *Disasters.* 16(2) 97-103.

# Why Door-to-Door?

Why not online, mail, telephone, convenience?

- More representative and generalizable
  - Accessible to everyone
- Data quality
  - Higher quality, more complete data
  - Higher response rates
  - Ability to provide clarification on questions or wording
- Visibility
  - “Boots on the ground”



# How CASPER Has Been Used

- Disaster assessments
  - Health status and basic needs following a disaster
  - Community preparedness
- Routine data collection
  - Community health needs assessments
  - Other surveys that gauge community opinion on a variety of topics
    - Potassium iodide (KI) distribution
    - Teen pregnancy

# Post-Disaster Assessments

- Determine the number of people affected
- Assess physical damage to homes
- Determine whether people have access to:
  - Electricity
  - Clean water
  - Food
  - Communication
  - Health services



# Bastrop County, TX Wildfires

- Texas in midst of extreme drought
- High winds pushed trees into power lines and started a fire (Sep 2011)
- Fire was in Bastrop County, ~30 miles east of Austin, TX
- Wildfire destroyed 1,660 homes and caused 2 deaths
- It was declared a federal disaster



Image Source: FEMA/Patsy Lynch, 2011

# Household Survey

- Health Status
- Access to Utilities
- Access to Health Care
- Mental Health
- Evacuation Behaviors
- Messaging

Date: _____ Cluster #: _____	Survey #: _____	Interviewer initials: _____
# of Housing Units in Cluster: _____	Key: Y = Yes N = No D/K = Don't Know	
Address: _____		
1. Type of Structure: <input type="checkbox"/> Single family house <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple unit (e.g., duplex, apartment) <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	12. Do you know how to access services for mental health if needed? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
2. How many people lived in your household before the wildfire? 2a. Of those who lived in your household before the wildfire, how many are: _____ Adults _____ Children (less than 18 years) _____	*13. Have any of the children in your household experienced any of the following symptoms since the wildfire? a. Sleep disturbances (e.g. nightmares, screaming during sleep, or bedwetting) <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K b. Clinging behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K c. Loss of concentration or irritability <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K d. Physical complaints (stomachaches, headaches, dizziness), for which a physical cause cannot be found <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
3. How many people slept in this household last night? 3a. Of those who slept here last night, how many were: _____ 0-2 years _____ 3-17 years _____ 18-64 years _____ 65+ _____	14. Has anyone in this household found it more difficult to get the healthcare they need since the wild fire? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
4. Has your home been damaged by the wildfires? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	15. Is there anyone in this household who has trouble getting the following medical items that they need since the wildfire? <input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen <input type="checkbox"/> Dialysis <input type="checkbox"/> Nebulizers <input type="checkbox"/> Glucometers (diabetes test) <input type="checkbox"/> Medications <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify: _____ Why? _____	
5. Was anyone in this household injured because of the wildfire, either during evacuation or after returning home? <input type="checkbox"/> Y (go to #5a) <input type="checkbox"/> N (skip to #6) <input type="checkbox"/> D/K (skip to #6) 5a. What was the injury? (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Burns <input type="checkbox"/> Strains/sprains <input type="checkbox"/> Broken bones <input type="checkbox"/> Cuts, abrasions, or puncture wounds <input type="checkbox"/> Eye injury (corneal scrape) <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify: _____	16. Do you have a working telephone? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
6. Has every adult (18 years or older) in your household had a tetanus shot within the last 10 years? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	17. Do you have a working toilet? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
7. Has anyone in your household experienced any of the following conditions, either newly developed or that have worsened, since the wildfires? a. Breathing problems <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K b. Eye problems (dryness, irritation) <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K c. Heart problems (e.g. high blood pressure) <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K <u>During disasters there are many stressors, the following questions address this.</u>	18. What is your current source of drinking water? <input type="checkbox"/> Well <input type="checkbox"/> Tap <input type="checkbox"/> Bottled <input type="checkbox"/> No drinking water <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
8. Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you felt down, depressed, or hopeless? <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Several days <input type="checkbox"/> More than half of the days <input type="checkbox"/> Nearly every day <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Refused	19. What is your current source of electricity? <input type="checkbox"/> Generator (go to #19b) <input type="checkbox"/> No electricity (go to #19a) <input type="checkbox"/> Power company (go to #19a) <input type="checkbox"/> Never had (go to #19a) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (go to #19a), specify: _____	
9. Over the last 2 weeks, how many days have you had trouble falling asleep, staying asleep, or sleeping too much? <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Several days <input type="checkbox"/> More than half of the days <input type="checkbox"/> Nearly every day <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Refused	19a. Since the wildfire, have you used a generator at any time? <input type="checkbox"/> Y (go to #19b) <input type="checkbox"/> N (skip to #20) <input type="checkbox"/> D/K (skip to #20) 19b. How do you use it? <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors (go to #19d) <input type="checkbox"/> In the garage (go to #19d) <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors: _____ feet away from home (go to #19c) 19c. Do you use it near an open door/window? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K 19d. Are you still using a generator? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
10. Over the last 2 weeks, how many days have you had trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching TV? <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all <input type="checkbox"/> Several days <input type="checkbox"/> More than half of the days <input type="checkbox"/> Nearly every day <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Refused	20. Since the wildfire, have you cooked on a charcoal/gas grill or camp stove? <input type="checkbox"/> Y (go to #20a) <input type="checkbox"/> N (skip to #21) <input type="checkbox"/> D/K (skip to #21) 20a. Where and how do you use it? <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors with door/window open (skip to #20c) <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors with door/window closed (skip to #20c) <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors: _____ feet away from home (go to #20b) 20b. Do you use it near an open door/window? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K 20c. Are you still using it? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
11. Were you experiencing any of these symptoms before the wildfire? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	21. Do you have a problem with debris pickup? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> D/K	
	22. How are you getting information after the wildfire? (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbor, word of mouth <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> Internet <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response Questionnaire, Bastrop, Texas

09/23/11



# Results

- Report shared with local officials
- Data used in grant applications for long term recovery (mental health and building roads)
- Results guided interventions on health communication and messaging

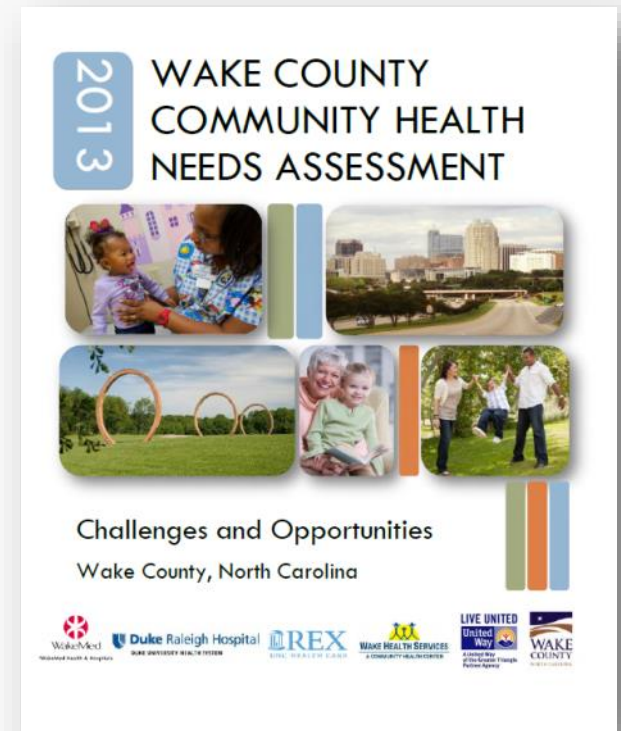


*CASPER Team, Bastrop County, TX, 2011*

# Community Health Needs Assessments

CASPER can be used to:

- Determine community health priorities
- Estimate population health status and access to health care services
- Assess community emergency preparedness
- Identify services needing improvement



# Chatham County CHNA

- Staff received training from NCIPH via webinar on:
  - Project management
  - Interview techniques and team safety
- Using NCIPH tablets and Collect SMART, completed 190 interviews with 25 teams over 6 days



# Results

- This resource enabled us to:
  - Quickly train and field teams with mixed levels of community survey experience
  - Randomly select houses and easily find them
  - Coordinate data collection across county
  - Conduct and upload surveys electronically
  - Analyze data and generate results (after data cleaning)

# Barriers to Implementing CASPER

- Sampling expertise and software
  - Automated cluster sampling online
- Statistical and mapping software
  - Epi Info™ + Collect SMART dashboard
- Data collection software and hardware
  - Free mobile app deployable to tablets and smartphones

Collect  SMART

Survey Management and Response Tools

# Development and Pilots

- Concept: Summer 2013
- Pilot testing: 2013-2015
  - 9 surveys, ~1700 interviews
  - Iterative process
- Project manager feedback (TX)
- Training Materials
  - User manual
  - Online modules
  - Still developing....



## Survey Management System

### Sample Selection and data management

HOME CONTACT US LOGOUT

#### Create New Project

Please Enter New Project Name:(up to 64 characters)  
Community Health Survey

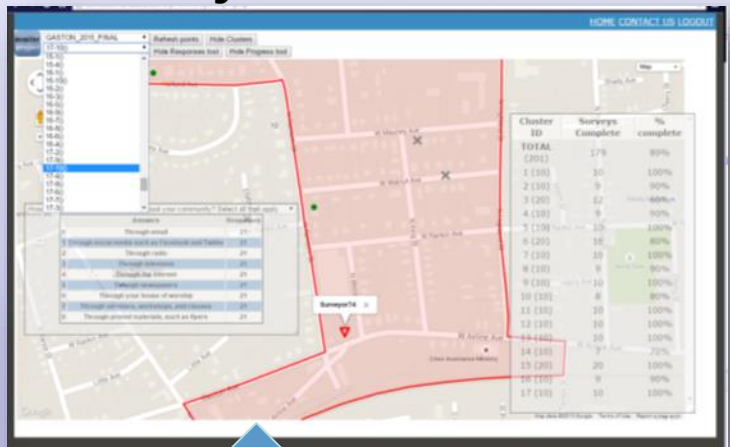
Please Enter Survey Date 2015-05-22

Please select sites for survey from the following options:

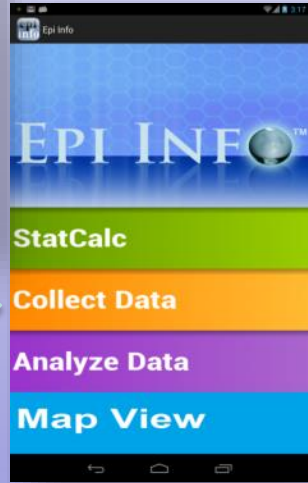
SELECT REGION (STATE/COUNTY OR ZIPCODE)	GENERATE CLUSTERS
State : New Hampshire Select County/Countries : Belknap County Carroll County Cheshire County Coos County Grafton County	Selected: <b>Region</b> <b>Population</b> <b>HHS</b> Gaston County    206086    88686 Enter the Number of Clusters you wish to generate (default 30): 30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require minimum of 7 Housing Units per cluster <input type="checkbox"/> Use Block Groups <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO GENERATE CLUSTERS</a>

To select multiple options:  
Hold down the control (ctrl) button and click  
(For Mac: Hold down the command button and click)

### Project Dashboard



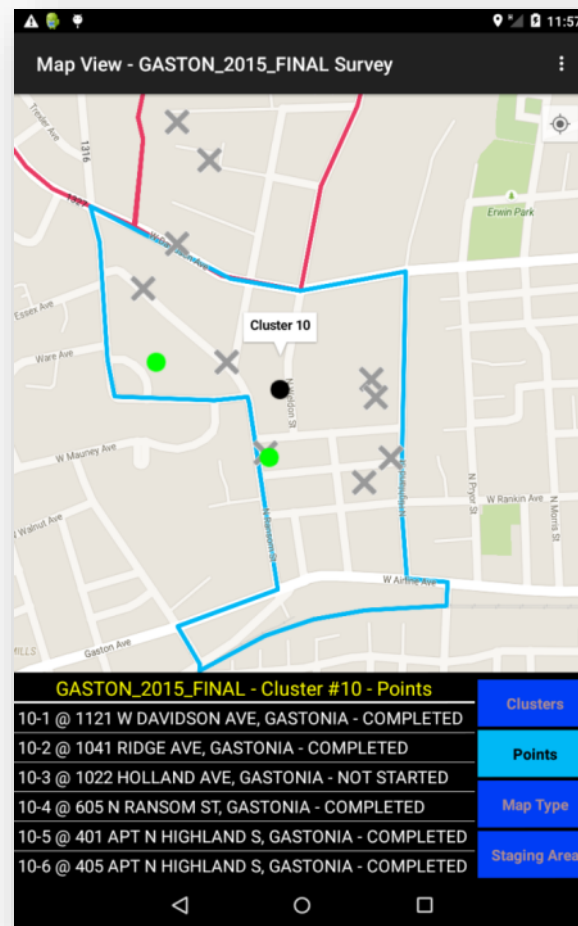
### Mobile App



### Survey Collection and Coordination Tools

# Mobile App

- Integrated with mobile Epi Info™
  - Create questionnaires and analyze results
- Compatible with most Android tablets and phones
- Navigation to preselected survey sites
- Offline mode
  - Functionality in the absence of cell coverage





# Project Management Tools

- Web-based
- GIS-enabled site selection (U.S. Census data)
- Real-time frequency analysis of results
- Real-time mapping to track and locate survey teams
- Cloud-based database for survey responses for added data security

**Collect**  **SMART**  
Survey Management and Response Tools

# Create a New Project

Automated cluster sampling nationwide\*

OR

Supply your own spatial data



The screenshot shows the 'Collect SMART' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'HOME CONTACT US LOGIN SIGN UP'. The main heading is 'Welcome to Collect SMART'. Below this, there is a paragraph explaining the tool's capabilities: 'The power of Collect SMART sampling is in its ability divide the population of interest into randomly-selected geographically distinct clusters using U.S. Census blocks or block groups. The Collect SMART sampling tool will draw a random sample with probability proportional to population based on the number of housing units in your sampling frame. The sampling frame can be defined as a single county, multiple counties or by zip code or multiple zip codes.' A second paragraph states: 'Within the clusters, a random sample of households should be selected to be interviewed. Refer to the User Guide for Project Managers on acceptable second stage sample selection methods. This method has been validated for rapid assessments and the estimation of population-level health needs (producing valid and precise estimates of +/-10%).' A third paragraph says: 'Before you create your sample you will need to create your questionnaire using the desktop version of Epi Info 7. You can [download that here](#)'. There are two prominent blue buttons: 'NEW PROJECT' and 'UPLOAD FILES'. At the bottom of the page, there are logos for UNC (University of North Carolina), The North Carolina Institute for Public Health, Sky Highways Mobile Software, and Epi Info.

\*block groups

# Site Selection Tool

[HOME](#) [CONTACT US](#) [LOGOUT](#)

## Create New Project

Use this page to generate a random sample of clusters in a sampling frame specified by one of more counties or zipcodes

Please Enter New Project Name:(up to 64 characters)

Durham County CHOS 2015

1

Please Enter Survey Date

2015-06-17

2

Please select sites for survey from the following options:

SELECT REGION (STATE/COUNTY OR ZIPCODE)	GENERATE CLUSTERS						
State : North Carolina	Selected: <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Region</th><th>Population</th><th>HUs</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Durham County</td><td>267587</td><td>120217</td></tr></tbody></table> Enter the Number of Clusters you wish to generate (default 30): 30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Require minimum of 7 Housing Units per cluster <input type="checkbox"/> Use Block Groups	Region	Population	HUs	Durham County	267587	120217
Region		Population	HUs				
Durham County		267587	120217				
Select County/Countries : Dare County Davidson County Davie County Duplin County Durham County Edgecombe County							
Select Zipcode(s) : Select Zipcode(s) 27006 27007 27009 27011 27012							
To select multiple options: Hold down the control (ctrl) button and click (For Mac: Hold down the command button and click)							
	<a href="#">CLICK HERE TO GENERATE CLUSTERS</a>						

3

4

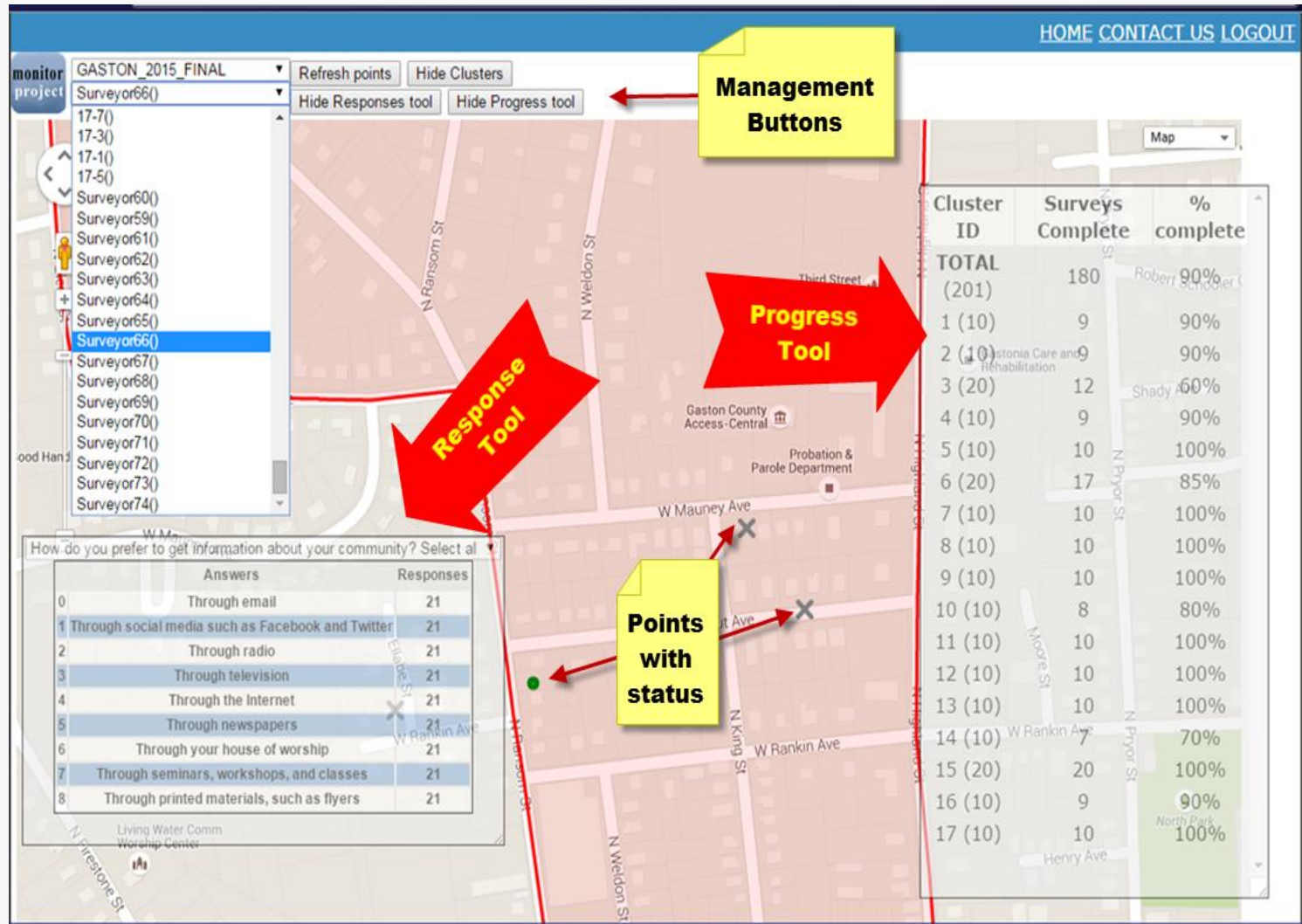
5

6

7

8

# Project Dashboard



# Collect SMART not limited to CASPER

- Any data collection opportunities – limitless possibilities!
  - Convenience sampling
  - Simple random samples
  - Well-inspections
  - Animal services
  - Outbreak investigation – contact tracing

# Still Beta...Next Steps

Potential additional development ideas

- Turn-by-turn navigation
- Export image option for easier field maps
- Second-stage sample selection
- Block sampling nationwide (NC, TX only)
- Analysis reporting and summaries (reports)
- Push notifications for safety warnings
- Cross-platform compatibility (iOS)

# How to Get Involved

- Limited public release
  - We need more feedback from project managers
  - Let us know what your project or need is:  
<http://tinyurl.com/CollectSMARTinfo>
  - What you need to use the tools
    - Epi Info desktop
    - Collect SMART app
    - A user account on the Collect SMART website

# Learn more

- CDC Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) Toolkit

<http://tinyurl.com/CASPERToolkit>

- Details on CASPER methods
- Sample forms and question bank

- Collect SMART page:

<http://sph.unc.edu/nciph/collectsmart>



# Thank You

**For additional questions,  
contact Matt Simon at:**

**[mattsimon@unc.edu](mailto:mattsimon@unc.edu)**

**David Zane at:**

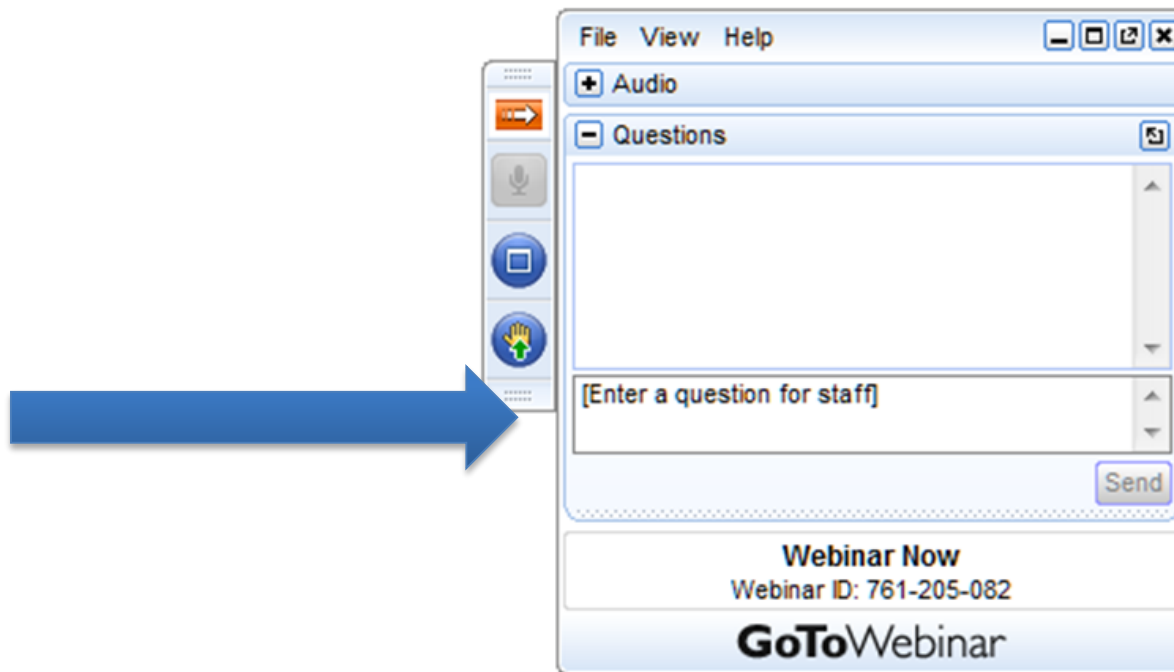
**[David.Zane@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:David.Zane@dshs.state.tx.us)**

**Mike Zelek at:**

**[Michael.Zelek@chathamnc.org](mailto:Michael.Zelek@chathamnc.org)**

# Questions and Comments?

Join the Conversation...



# Thank you!

See the webinar event page on the ASPPH website for a link to the **archived webinar**:

<http://www.aspph.org/aspph-presents-webinar-series-community-assessment-for-public-health-emergency-response-casper-and-the-development-of-collect-smart-survey-management-and-response-tools-for-assessing-the-health-of/>

# Coming Attractions...

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## ASPPH Presents WEBINAR

### Using Exercises to Measure Preparedness

August 6, 2015

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Eastern

For more information and registration link:

<http://www.aspph.org/event/aspph-presents-using-exercises-to-measure-preparedness/>

# References

- Alfano-Sobsey E, Ledford SL, Decosimo K, Horney JA. Community health needs assessment in Wake County, North Carolina: partnership of public health, hospitals, academia, and other stakeholders. *North Carolina Medical Journal*. 2014;75(6): 376-383.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) Toolkit: Second edition. Atlanta (GA): CDC; 2012. [http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/surveillance/pdf/casper\\_toolkit\\_version\\_2\\_0\\_508\\_compliant.pdf](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/surveillance/pdf/casper_toolkit_version_2_0_508_compliant.pdf).
- Simon M and Decosimo K. CASPER method for primary data collection in community health assessments: a North Carolina case study. National Network for Public Health Institutes. May 2014. <http://www.nnphi.org/program-areas/community-health-improvement>.
- Texas A&M Forest Service. Bastrop Fire Photographs. InciWeb Incident Information System. <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/photographs/2589/0/>.
- Wake County Human Services. Wake County Community Health Needs Assessment. 2013. <http://www.wakegov.com/humanservices/data/Documents/2013%20Wake%20CHNA%20Full%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>.
- Zane DF, Jones R, Huss J, Sanches K, Hoogheem J, Clements B. Public health emergency response to a massive wildfire in Texas (2011). *Texas Public Health Journal*. 2012;64(4):6-10.

# FAQs

- When can I start using Collect SMART?
  - Go live planned for mid-August
- How many people does it take to do a survey?
  - Plan for 20 people per day for 3-4 days
  - Thursday, Friday and Saturday
- Have you found it's feasible for LHDs to have enough people to carry these out?
  - See notes

# FAQs

- What devices can I use with the Collect SMART system? Can I use my iPhone?
  - Android only currently
  - Exploring possibility of iOS conversion
- Compatibility with other form designers?
  - Unknown currently. Must use EpiInfo for now, which is fairly easy to use and free!

# FAQs

- What type of Census data is the tool using?
  - In NC and Texas, 2010 Block data
  - Nationwide, block group data is 2013 American Community Survey population and housing unit estimates
- How do I learn more?
  - <http://sph.unc.edu/nciph/collectsmart/>
  - Email [mattsimon@unc.edu](mailto:mattsimon@unc.edu)