

MAY 8, 2023

## Popular Pitt County Over-the-Counter Medicine Giveaway Returns This Year to Greenville

**Greenville** – It's annual, it's popular ... and it's back!

This year's Pitt County Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medicine Giveaway will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday in the large parking lot across from the ECU Health Wellness Center, 2610 Stantonsburg Road, near the ECU Health Medical Center.

The OTC giveaway provides participating members of the public with such health products as cold/flu/allergy medicines, pain relievers, children's medicines, vitamins and more. This **free** event, to be held rain or shine, will be primarily **drive-thru**; no identification, nor income or residency requirements, are needed to participate.

As with last year's event, there was a pre-registration period in which people could request specific items from the list of available OTC products being given away; however, pre-registration quickly reached capacity even before it was scheduled to close.

Volunteers at the event will hand pre-registered participants their requested orders through their car windows – or, for as long as supplies last, individuals 18 and older who are **not** pre-registered can receive a pre-packed bag with about eight OTC items.

"This always-popular annual event continues to fill a real local need, helping people offset some of their medical and other costs by providing some regularly used OTC products free of charge," explained Shantell Cheek, Director of Access East Uninsured Programs, which includes event co-sponsor HealthAssist. "It's gotten so popular in the last few years, in fact, that we unfortunately have run out of medicines the last couple of times before we are able to get to everyone who has shown up!"

The OTC Medicine Giveaway is a recurring collaboration between NC MedAssist, a statewide nonprofit pharmacy providing free prescription medicines to low-income, uninsured North Carolinians, along with ECU Health, and HealthAssist, which helps meet the medical needs of qualifying uninsured and underinsured residents of Beaufort, Greene, Edgecombe, Hertford, Martin and Pitt counties.

HealthAssist is part of Greenville-based nonprofit Access East, Inc. ([www.accesseast.org](http://www.accesseast.org)), an ECU Health affiliate coordinating patient-focused, provider-driven health care for the Medicaid and uninsured populations across 34 eastern N.C. counties.



**WHAT:** Free Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medicine Giveaway

**WHERE:** Parking lot opposite the ECU Health Wellness Center, 2610 Stantonsburg Road, Greenville

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**COST:** Free, for all adult individuals, and families. **OTC items available only as supplies last.**