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From the left: Matt Lange, Dairy Development Coordinator, NC Dairy Advantage Program and Leigh Lane, Stepstone Holsteins Owner meet with Congressman Brad Miller to talk about the Dairy Industry.

Farmer's Briefing, Yanceyville – Congressman Miller held his fifth annual Rural Farmer's Briefing at Caswell Pines Golf Club in Yanceyville. Approximately 50 area farmers and business leaders attended. Congressman Miller spoke about the Farm Bill and issues affecting the farmers in the Caswell County area such as the increasing costs of plant operating fuel (e.g., natural gas) and concerns that diverting crops to ethanol production will lead to higher costs for feedstock and lessen profitability. The farmers also shared their concerns about changes in immigration laws that would prevent them from getting the necessary labor for their farms.

Piedmont Family Service Center, Prospect Hill – During this year's celebration of National Community Health Center Week, Congressman Miller visited Piedmont Health Services to recognize their commitment to Caswell County for the last 37 years.

Piedmont Health Services is the first Community Health Center in the state of North Carolina founded March 11, 1970. The Prospect Hill Center is one of six in North Carolina which offers medical, dental and pharmacy services to people in need.

Community health centers provide continuous primary and preventive care that reduces the risk of new health care problems and lowers the overall potential cost of health care. Additionally, health centers are expanding to reach more people by removing geographic, language, and cultural barriers for patients who do not have a usual source of care. Health centers serve nearly 16 million patients nationally -providing care to 1 of every 8 uninsured Americans, 1 of every 4 Americans in poverty, and 1 of every 9 rural Americans.

We still have a way to go to ensure that Americans receive quality health care delivered in the most efficient and cost effective manner. Community Health Centers like Piedmont Health Services have been essential to ensuring access to health care. Chronic diseases account for seven out of ten deaths in America, yet a majority of these are preventable. Chronic diseases disproportionately affect minorities and low-income communities. By increasing access to preventative care and quality health service help we can lessen these disparities.

Congressman Miller has co-sponsored the Community Health Center Renewal Act to reauthorize funding for these centers.