



Visioneering Wichita Health Care Strategic Alliance Health Focus Area Updates October 2007

ASTHMA Next Meeting: November 14th at 3:30 at Wesley

Wichita Asthma Taskforce met October 10th at Center for Health & Wellness. *Living with Asthma Nights* will be presented in at least three locations (calendar 2007) with programs for children and adults.

Free sandwich dinner for participants beginning at 6:00, program from 6:30 - 8:30. The agenda includes What is asthma?; Asthma medications and devices; What parents and kids should know; Asthma walk video; Being referred to a specialist; Q&A. Asthma action plan materials will be available for children and families. Locations and dates include: Center for Health & Wellness – October 24th; Asthma Clinic, Via Christi Chang Family Practice—November 13th; Jackson Elementary School --TBD

MENTAL HEALTH, Next Meeting Tuesday, October 30 at noon at Breakthrough Club

Coalition members are conducting a census of local mental health providers: psychiatrists, child psychiatrists, ARNPs, PAs, licensed MH workers, case managers, neurophysiologists, aging specialists in mental health.

ORAL HEALTH

The Oral Health Coalition continues plans for a Give Kids a Smile Day in March.

On October 19th, Dr. Weno, the KDHE Dental Director and Dr. Dexter Woods, the new AEGD Director will be sharing local and state perspectives about oral health issues at an 11:30 lunch at Larkspur. RSVP required.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & NUTRITION, Next Meeting: Noon, Wednesday, Nov. 7th, South YMCA

- The *Health & Wellness Coalition* (HWC) continues to send a newsletter once or twice a month to their list of 2,400 local recipients. This health promotion tool provides information about programs, people and policy issues related to physical activity and nutrition.
- The School Committee of (HWC) received a grant from Kansas Health Foundation for mini-grant Healthy School Awards for area schools. Applications are available at www.hwcwichita.org. The first applications were due October 1st with funding announcements expected next month. The next round of applications will be March 1, 2008.
- The Sedgwick County Health Department and the YMCA have applied for an ACHIEVE grant. The purpose of the funding is to bring together local leaders and stakeholders to build healthier communities by promoting policy and environmental change strategies with a focus on physical activity and healthy eating (among others). The intention of the grant is to strengthen collaborative partnerships for local & state health agencies with the local YMCAs.

TOBACCO Next meeting is October 18th, 5:15 at the Sedgwick County Health Department.

- Harvey County has significant ordinance efforts moving forward. Hesston voted and passed 10/9; Newton city council is voting 10/23
- Tobacco Free Wichita is promoting a Clean Air Wichita campaign and invites community members to sign the online statement of support at www.tobaccofreewichita.org.
- Survey—the citizen survey is developed and will be finalized and mailed October 19th. Expect results in December.
- Plans for Great American Smoke Out are being developed. GASO is November 15th.

UNINTENTIONAL INJURY Safe Kids next meeting is Nov. 20th at the Kansas Turnpike Authority.

Fire prevention week activities included information events at Exploration Place on 10/8, the Zoo on 10/9 and the YMCA on 10/10, and Via Christi on 10/11 which reached over 3,000 students, parents, teachers and seniors.

Safe Kids just completed the International Walk To School day and provided an assembly about safety, especially pedestrian safety, to 500 students on 10/2 at Irving Elementary, and walked them to school on 10/3. The partners included USD 259, WPD, WFD, Sheriff's dept., Safe and Drug Free Schools, Via Christi, and Wichita Police School Liaison program. Another program is planned for Harry Street Elementary school as soon as the construction around the school is completed.

Safe Kids is currently working on Halloween Safety with our Police School Liaison officers, who will provide education to approximately 800 elementary students. Students will receive reflective bags and safety information sheets. A Halloween Safety event is planned for 10/27, from 10-1, at Babies R Us.

No report this month from ALCOHOL OR PALLIATIVE CARE