

CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2005

Attendees: Committee Members
Marilou Brodie, Sue Chambers, Charlotte Davis, Blair Dean,
James Fasules, Martha Hiett, Suzanne McCarthy, Connie Meeks,
Jan Richter, Rosemary Rodibaugh, Susanne Tullos

Staff
Mary Gaither, Ann Thompson

Absentees: Bobbie Davis, Suzanne McCarthy, Kathy McFetridge

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 14, 2005, 10:00 a.m.
Auditorium, Arkansas Department of Health
4815 W. Markham Street, Little Rock (Corner of Markham & Monroe Streets)

Chair Martha Hiett called the meeting to order. Minutes of the April 7, 2005, meeting were approved.

Martha explained the new roles of appointees, Dr. Paul Halverson, Director and Dr. Joe Thompson, Chief Health Officer. She also handed out copies of Act 2285, An Act to Provide Statewide Standards for School Lunch Programs, which states that the Child Health Advisory Committee, the Child Nutrition Unit of the Department of Education, and the Department of Health shall provide technical assistance as necessary. Martha informed the Committee that representatives from the Centers for Disease Control had visited with Arkansas Department of Health Officials to learn more about Healthy Arkansas.

Martha called the Committee's attention to the letter in their packet from Kellar Noggle officially appointing the Key Resource Group members already representing education and appointing one new member, James Simmons. She said she had made calls to some of the other education organizations that the Committee had agreed to ask for representation. She said she would follow up and report back to the Committee.

The Committee discussed ways to highlight local communities that have been developed and are actively meeting.

Andi Ridgway reported that the outstanding schools chosen to be recognized, in an exhibit at the Annual Conference on Nutrition and Physical Activity were:

- Northeast Region - Brooklyn School, Craighead County
- Northwest Region – Rogers School
- Central Region – Little Rock School District
- Southeast Region – Watson Chapel
- Southwest – Union Academy, El Dorado

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Andi advised that the registration deadline for the conference is July 15, 2005, and that the forms can be obtained from www.healthierchildren.org. She said that three Community Health Nurse positions had been vacated and that two had already been filled. She reported that there are now 70 hometown health coalitions with Pulaski County having more than one. Martha said the counties that do not have hometown health coalitions, have other things going on. She said there is a reporting process for the local county health plans relating to schools.

The Community Health Nurses in attendance reported on School Health Index training they had conducted.

Joy Rockenbach reported that all except 22 schools had done the BMI assessments and submitted their data to the Survey and Research Center in Fayetteville. She said only 6 schools of the 22 had refused to do the BMI assessments and that most of the remainder had done the assessments and had just failed to submit the data. Joy advised that the child health report had been put on a web-based program developed by a company in Canada. She said passwords for the cd's had gone out to Superintendents and they can now go to the web-based program and access their school only to download and print. This would result in reports going out to individual schools next year as soon as the data is analyzed. She said the technology piece that ACHI piloted in North Little Rock and Watson Chapel had been successful, with Watson Chapel entering 3,300 students in four days. North Little Rock piloted a pocket pc piece in three schools, and then they asked for and were granted permission to pilot four more schools. Joy said they were working with programmers to have the capability for the pocket pc to go directly to the web instead of importing and exporting data. She said the technology piece is moving quickly and offered to demonstrate to the Committee. She said all the data from last school year would be compiled and made available to schools by website sometime in July and that the state report should be compiled by September.

Martha Hiatt reported that the Recommendations were on the agenda for the June meeting of the Board of Education and that there was a possibility that they might go back out for public comment. A copy of the latest version of the Recommendations was handed to the Committee. It was agreed that staff would request transcripts of public hearings and written comments from the Department of Education and provide to the Committee at the July meeting. It was agreed that Rhonda Sanders would go to the Board of Education meeting and report to the Committee. Charlotte Davis reported that the Rules and Regulations for Food Service Training, based on the Recommendations, had been approved. She said every training session this summer had been filled to capacity. She also reported that the maximum portion size chart had been given to vendors for the October State Expo, with a request that they gear their exhibits to items contained on the chart.

James Fasules said that Arkansas has been cited as an example state by other states that took policies developed by the Child Health Advisory Committee and actually implemented them. Martha Hiatt said staff would continue to track legislation and specifics in other states. There was a suggestion to look at improvements that have been made as a result of the Committee's Recommendations.

Brett Stone and Dr. Mark Lovell presented information about an obesity project they have developed entitled, "The Involvement Change Activity & Nutrition Program" (ICAN). Mark Lovell said they

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believe the program meets all the requirements of Act 1220, and that some of the Child Health Advisory Committee Recommendations were incorporated into the program. They said they would have a pilot study during the next school year with a different study group in four different schools.

The Committee agreed that the Role of a Subcommittee for a Clearinghouse for Best Practices would be discussed at the August meeting. Suzanne McCarthy, Jan Richter and James Fasules agreed to be on the Subcommittee. They also agreed to revisit Education Resources and the Committee's role in monitoring the reporting process.

The Committee agreed to apply for a Blue & You Foundation Grant to promote an obesity conference to showcase some of the local nutrition and physical activity advisory committees that have excelled. Rhonda Sanders, Marilou Brodie, and James Fasules agreed to work on the application, and Martha Hiatt volunteered Lee Clark to assist them

The Committee agreed to change future meeting convening times to 10:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.