

**CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

August 9, 2007

- Attendees: Committee Members
Rhonda Sanders, Joe Don Parris, Dr. Steven Strode,
Dr. Richard Nugent, Rosemary Rodibaugh, Kathy McFetridge,
Suzanne McCarthy, Barbara Kumpe (sitting in for James Fasules),
Carole Garner, Charlotte Davis, Hollie Huckabee, Christine
Patterson.
- Absentees: Paula Smith, Jan Richter, Sue Chambers, Dee Cox
- Staff: Jo Ann Bolick, Cheryl Allen
- Next Meeting: September 13, 2007

Kathy McFetridge called the meeting to order. Minutes of the July 12, 2007 meeting were approved as read with the following changes made: Mary Wells is a *CHP* for the Northeast Region. A report of Dr. Phillip's presentation "Year Three Evaluation: Arkansas Act 1220 of 2003 to Combat Childhood Obesity" *can be accessed at www.uams.edu/coph*. The revised minutes will be sent to the Committee.

General Business-The Committee voted to select Suzanne McCarthy as the new Vice-Chairman. The decision by the Child Health Advisory Committee was unanimous. However, since Suzanne was not present for the voting, the appointment is pending a follow-up discussion of the Chairman, Kathy McFetridge with Suzanne. A follow-up report will be made at the September 13th meeting.

Staff Update- JoAnn Bolick stated that the Child Health Advisory Committee members were invited to exhibit at the School Nurses' Conference July 31st - August 8, 2007. Child Health Advisory Committee has been invited to exhibit at the *Special Needs in Early Years Conference 2008* on July 31 - August 1, 2008 at the Peabody Hotel. JoAnn Bolick stated that five new committee members will start in September and waiting for information on appointments from the American Heart Association and Arkansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Department of Health Update-Dr. Nugent stated that the Family Health branch is within the Center for Health Advancement, which also includes Oral Health, WIC, Tobacco, and the Life Stages Branch. Dr. Nugent stated that Becky Adams, Life Stages Branch Chief was currently in the process of hiring the Children in Schools position. When the position is filled, that person will participate on CSH Core team. This position will be aimed at

someone who knows about in-state schools, will bring scientific capabilities, and be able to look through literature and find the best practices that can be applied in school health settings. Dr. Nugent stated that this candidate will have an overview approach and can bridge communication to other individuals and resources that are outside the CSH program. This position is designed to be a support person, policy person, and someone who knows literature and is familiar with children on a broad scale within the state of Arkansas.

Educational Department Update-None

Child Nutrition Update-Sheila Brown stated that 1,100 people were involved in the child nutrition training this summer and part of this is a direct relationship to Act 1220 with a required manager director certification that has become mandatory by legislation. She stated that cafeteria managers go through a three-year training process, one year of classroom regulation and personnel management, food production and food planning. The second year, trainees apply classroom regulations in situational exercises. In the third year, the supervisors will follow them and make sure that the skills required are implemented and carried out to receive their certification. There was also a two-week director certification. Classes officially ended August 9, 2007.

Hometown Health Update-Rosemary Withers presented a handout of Fall 2007 Workshops and Trainings. Community Health Nurse Specialists and Community Health Promotion Specialists are either presenting or facilitating several fall trainings for the education cooperatives and the school districts that they serve.

Coordinated School Health Program Update-Laura McDowell stated that CSH had a great Summer Institute. All 23 schools attended. Some schools are already implementing staff wellness programs in 2008 and want to make changes in their nutrition policies. The Coordinated School Health has been invited to attend three Conferences: The Obesity Summit Management Conference in Las Vegas in September and the APHA Conference and Disease Prevention Conference in Washington, D.C. CSHP staff attended the Alliance for Healthier Generations meeting the first of August.

Act 1220 Coordinator Update-Joy Rockenbach stated that a document on goals, objectives, and process steps for the Act 1220 Coordinator position is being drafted as it relates to requirement mandates by the law and requirements from both Department of Health and Department of Education. She stated that a five to six member advisory group will be formed and this group is primarily made up of those who are politically expedient, associated with this CHAC, and have the history and vision to see where the position is going. Joy Rockenbach stated that Act 1220 as it pertains to BMI - the BMI Training Manual is in the process of being updated and re-written with assistance from CHN Supervisors who will help with training and the certification process for school nurses.

Preparedness Conference Update-Dr. Strode stated that the 4th Annual Preparedness Conference was held in July 2007 at the Peabody Hotel. The theme was "Children's Needs in a Disaster." There was 581 registered and 71 of these were from schools.

The State of Children’s Health in Arkansas: “*Natural Wonders*”-Rhonda Sanders passed out a booklet on the State of Children’s health in Arkansas. You can access reports and updates on the website: www.arsoc.org. This report is the result of a collaborative effort between multiple agencies and healthcare providers in the state. This report includes a range of data on the current health status of Arkansas children; a discussion of their health needs, strategies for improving the health of children and suggestions for future analysis and data collection.

Kathryn McFetridge asked for public comment.

Amanda Philyaw passed out brochures for the 3rd Annual Conference “Winning Against Obesity: Implementing School-Based Environmental and Policy Changes to Reduce Childhood Obesity.” This Conference is sponsored by the UAMS COPH. Individuals invited are Wellness Committee members, school administrators, school nurses, teachers, coaches, food service personnel, parents and agency representatives. The Conference will provide an overview of Arkansas’ pioneering efforts to reduce childhood obesity, state initiatives to improve child health, and professional development workshops focused on strengthening school wellness policies and programs.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.