

# CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2004

Attendees: Committee Members  
Marilou Brodie, Debbie Stewart (sitting in for Charlotte Davis), Blair Dean,  
James Fasules, Suzanne McCarthy, Don Johnson (sitting in for Kathy McFetridge),  
Martha Phillips, Beverly Hines (sitting in for Rosemary Rodibaugh),  
Rhonda Sanders, Susanne Tullos

Staff

Becky Adams, Mary Gaither, Nancy Green, Ann Thompson

Absentees: Sue Chambers, Bobbie Davis, Martha Hiatt, Connie Meeks, Steve Singleton,

Next Meeting: Friday, January 21, 2005, 9:00 a.m.  
Room 902, Freeway Medical Building  
5800 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Little Rock

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Rhonda Sanders. Minutes of the November 4, 2004 meeting were not approved since there was not a quorum. The minutes will be presented at the January 21, 2005 meeting. Tammy Harrell requested that the wording in paragraph 3, page 2 of the minutes be changed from “being taught as required” to “being taught consistently”.

The revised CHAC logo was handed out and discussed. The committee agreed to revise the logo showing Act 1220 inside the outline of Arkansas, the organization represented by each member below their name, Healthy Children for Tomorrow under the logo, and Mary Gaither’s phone number at the bottom with the address. The revised logo will be presented for vote at the January meeting.

Mary introduced Sheila Brown, with the Child Nutrition Unit of the Department of Education, and past President of the Arkansas Dietetic Association. Sheila handed out copies of the Arkansas Department of Education Child Nutrition Unit web page and explained to the committee how to navigate the links. The local Nutrition and Physical Activity Committees are contained in the links.

Andy Ridgeway reported that the Toolkit had been revised, to reflect exact wording in Act 1220, and distributed and posted to the Healthy Arkansas web page. She said the Toolkit would also be posted to the Child Health Advisory Committee’s link. She introduced Nila King, the new Central Office Community Health Nurse, who will take over the BMI process next year. Andi said Nila is working with ACHI to schedule a BMI “Train the Trainer” session. She reported that the School Health Index (SHI) Training on November 4, 2004 was very successful and will be helpful to schools. She said HHI is working with the local nutrition and physical activity committees to develop local plans for Healthy Arkansas. She said they are working on Healthy Community Awards and that the applications contain questions pertaining to compliance with Act 1220.

Eydie Abercrombie reported on her activities relative to Act 1220 and the local committees. She said she had met with 18 local committees and they responded very positively. She said several wanted to do

# CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2004

(SHI) and that she had some already scheduled. She reported that many of the committees contain 20 plus members and the chair of one committee is a High School Junior.

Suzanne McCarthy reported that ACHI has not received from the Department of Education the student roster needed for sending BMI information to schools. She said the roster was due November 1, and the delay is under investigation. She said the reason for concern over the delay was that ACHI had committed to a two-month turnaround after receiving the information from DOE so schools could have the BMI information ready in time for parent conferences in order to save postage.

Suzanne and Martha Phillips commented on their experience while managing the CHAC booth at the State School Board Meeting on December 1. Martha said comments from school board members were generally positive. She said school superintendents were very negative. Suzanne said that, during their BMI presentation, they received many negative comments. She said the overarching concern was “what role did government have in monitoring nutrition and physical activity patterns of children”. Other comments included that BMI for k-12 is an ineffective use of time and resources, and that it should be kept to k-4. She said the consensus was that doing BMI in high school would not impact the long-term net effect. Suzanne also said many felt that there had been poor communication with the school board and superintendents and the problem had been dumped in their lap. She said many suggested that more educators should be on the Child Health Advisory Committee. Discussion of committee composition followed. Also they discussed ways to strengthen the Committee and the Key Resources Group

Martha Phillips reported that the Evaluation of Act 1220 might be announced concurrently to the two legislative public health committees. She said Representative Jay Bradford offered to facilitate a joint meeting during the first or second week of the upcoming legislative session and issue a special invitation to the Child Health Advisory Committee. She said there would be a key briefing of the baseline information with sponsors of the bill, prior to the full meeting. Martha reported there is still a 98% certainty for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funding, and possibly for two years instead of one.

Barbara Kumpe reported that she had received calls regarding BMI and one state told her they had also added blood pressure screening.

Martha Phillips said she had been asked to address a Home Schooling Group regarding childhood obesity even though Act 1220 is not relevant.

Sheila Brown, DOE, said she had received many calls from superintendents wanting to know just what is expected of them. She said that they don't realize the recommendations are not yet requirements. The avenue of communication to superintendents was discussed.

Suzanne requested that ADH staff obtain copies of the IOM Report on Preventing Childhood Obesity for committee members. Mary Gaither will order the report and distribute.

The draft bylaws were discussed and suggested changes will be made and emailed to the committee for review and comment so necessary changes can be made before the January meeting. The committee

# CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2004

requested that Robert Brech be invited to attend the meeting to answer questions regarding the bylaws. Rhonda Sanders instructed Ann Thompson to remind the committee in the email of the minutes that bylaws will be voted on at the January meeting.

Blair Dean asked the Committee to consider inviting Phil Lawler from Naperville, Illinois to discuss the physical activity model being used there. She is also working through ASU to visit Naperville and bring information to the Committee. The Committee discussed investigating how other states fund and staff their physical activity programs.

The Committee divided into the Nutrition and Physical Activity Subcommittees to plan for 2005 and select chairs. After the subcommittees met, they reported back to the full Committee. The Nutrition Subcommittee reported that they would email each other and select their chair, and that they had agreed on some topics they would investigate and clarify during the next year, such as positioning of school lunchtime and recess, vending machines, kindergarten snacks, etc. The Physical Activity Subcommittee reported that they had selected Blair Dean as their chair and had agreed to look at various models and curriculums. The Committee requested that more subcommittee time be provided on the agenda for the January meeting.

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