

Otero County Community Health Council

Minutes

August 7, 2007

Attendees:

1. Sylvia King Community Addiction Treatment Services
(C.A.T.S.)
2. Lee Ann Loney Otero County Community Health Council
(OCCHC)
3. Ken Larson Otero County Council on Alcohol (OCCAAA)
4. Denise Syling Otero Youth Empowerment Association
5. Jake Meyer Children In Need of Services (CHINS)
6. Kerry Rice Girl Scouts Zia Council
7. Grace McMillin Local Collaborative 12 (LC12)
8. HR Prather DWI Program
9. Allen Stenger Otero County Tobacco Education Coalition
(OTEC)
10. Tina Godby-Ware Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual
Assault Response Team
11. Michael Murphy Disability Resource Center
12. Jean Jaszai Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center
(GCRMC)
13. Carol Meyer CHINS/Begin at Birth
14. Eric Reagan OCCAAA

15. Janie Richardson C.A.T.S.
16. Kristi Daugherty Mesilla Valley Hospital (MVH)
17. Tresa VanWinkle CAPPED
18. Maria Gallegos HELP NM Child Development Division
19. Barb Frick J4J
20. Eddie Reeves OTEC
21. Linda Fritze CAPPED
22. Oscar Cereceres DWI/Teen Court/Preventionist
23. Santiago Rodriquez OCCAAA
24. Gloria Vaughn
25. Raginée Mendoza Ben Archer Health Center
26. Tracey Spenser Holloman Air Force Base Airman Family
27. Alicia Rios City of Alamogordo
28. Tony Martinez Molina
29. Angie Walsh CAPPED
30. Amy Trujillo Southern Area Health Education Center
(SoAHEC)

The president, Sylvia King, opened the meeting with introductions.

Program: Tresa VanWinkle of CAPPED presented our program. She began by publicly thanking Gloria Vaughn and other legislators for the 2006 bill for \$100,000 for prevention and support in Southern New Mexico. She said that 8 counties have benefited.

The CAPPED (Cancer Awareness Prevalence Prevention and Early Detection), a grassroots non-profit, began under the CHINS umbrella. One half of men and 1/3 of women will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. She provided many additional statistics (for details, contact CAPPED at 434-4673). There has been an overall reduction in cancer over time (4%). Otero County trends include the following: in 1983 a rate of 304 cases/100,000 people, in 1999 the rate was 459, and the actual cases in Otero 239 in 1999. A group got together to start CAPPED, and in 2001 achieved full non-profit status. CAPPED was given their building on New York Ave., but they needed \$100,000 to renovate it. CAPPED conducted many community presentations to raise money for renovation, and had their grand opening on June 17, 2003. They now have a gift shop that helps with donations and fundraising. Their kitchen is used for cooking classes with Ben Archer Health Center and the ICAN program from the Cooperative Extension Service. Their community conference room seats 50-75, and is available for any programs. They also have a public computer learning center. See CAPPED.org for details about the program. They are open 10-5 Monday-Friday. Other services provided include registration for Angel Flight and the New Mexico MedBank programs, a lending library, and educational seminars.

CAPPED has served 281 women through their mammography program. Ten women have been diagnosed with cancer and have received treatment. CAPPED has a Memorandum of Agreement with the Dept. of Health for screenings. In June 2007, Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center came on board with the screening program for low income women. In October, CAPPED sets up at Wal-Mart to register woman for free mammograms. They work with nursing students for this program.

Ms. VanWinkle talked about the Cason Therapy Doll program. This is for kids that need multiple pokes and prods for diagnosis, and allows the child to be mean to something the way they feel people are being mean to them.

Other CAPPED programs include Health's a Treasure program, and the Sun Safe program. The Sun Safe program has reached over 4300 children in 29 schools in Otero, Lincoln and Dona Ana Counties. She said they are looking to expand the program

statewide. The CAPPED Angel Fund helps prevent late stage diagnosis.

CAPPED is planning to open a Center for Integrative Health which will view the whole person and all aspects of lifestyle. It will include all therapeutic approaches (modern biomedical, chiropractic, massage, nutrition, Chinese, NA medicine, biofeedback, etc.) and will promote practitioners working together. Ms. VanWinkle added that primary prevention is key to lifelong health. For this program, they want to expand to the building next door.

OCCHC Business:

1. Health Council Priorities Update:

a. Substance Abuse:

i. Meth Coalition meets Tuesday August 14, 11:30–1:00 at The Counseling Center. – Denise Syling talked about the development of a mission statement, and they are working on putting together information packets for health fairs, etc. Otero PATH is taking any informational materials on Meth for a Meth library. People will be able to find information to give away at health fairs. The Coalition is planning October Meth Awareness Month to coincide with Red Ribbon Week in the schools.

ii. Meth Research Group update – Denise Syling reported that the group is working on phase II of their research. They have decided on a community to research. This will be middle school students and their parents in Otero County. The group has been going through more of the data from the 1st phase and based on that, they feel this is an important community to study. The Meth Research project was mentioned in an article in the NM DOH summer newsletter.

b. Obesity/Diabetes:

i. Otero County Diabetes Education and Prevention Collaborative – Next meeting is Thursday August 16, 11:30–1:00pm at Otero PATH – Amy Trujillo said that SoAHEC is working on contracting with

PATH to handle the operations of the collaborative. The collaborative has developed some activities for the coming year and these are aligned with NM strategic plan for diabetes.

ii. Walk Out West event – Lee Ann Loney talked about the planning for this event October 13. They are looking for sponsorships, participants for the health fair, etc. The next planning meeting is August 20, 1:30pm at PATH.

2. Otero Health Council Business:

a. Membership – The applications for voting membership were available. Lee Ann stressed that voting membership is a requirement of DOH and does not mean that other members (general members) are less important.

b. Strategies – Lee Ann talked about the need for the development of strategies around Health Council development based on the FY08 DOH contract. She handed out information about this and asked for input from all.

c. Timeline – Lee Ann talked about the development of the timeline due September 1. This also is a contract requirement.

d. Update from Chamber of Commerce Government Relations Committee – Allen Stenger said that next week Senator Domenici will be here to open the water research plant. This is Federal money for Alamogordo. Also, the Welfare Reform legislative committee met here last week. Many of the legislators are concerned about spending money on job training for drug users.

Community News (If you bring handouts, please take any leftovers with you. Thanks.)

Tony Martinez from Molina talked about coming changes in cost for the program. More of the program will be free starting August 1.

There will be a \$3 copay for prescriptions as well. This program is for adults age 19–64, at 20% poverty level. Also, small businesses (50 or less employees) can use this program. Call 1–800–377–9594 for more information.

Melissa Shoemaker has started the Alamogordo Healthy Airways Coalition focusing on asthma. They will have their kick off at the Boys & Girls Club tomorrow. Call 491–2291 for details.

Oscar Cereceres talked about prevention programs available through the DWI program. Call 443–2943.

HR Prather said the August meeting of the DWI Planning Council has been canceled due to the County Fair. The next meeting will be September 13. Call 434–8849.

Amy Trujillo announced she is leaving SoAHEC to work for Dona Ana County, effective August 15. There will still be the program assistant available to help with the Diabetes program until she is replaced. They will be advertising the position soon.

Lisa Patch said that school is starting back now and there will be much focus on wellness.

Kerry Rice said that volunteers are needed for Girl Scout programs. They are beginning their season and also need community service projects. Call 437–2921.

Denise Syling said that YEA will be going back in to schools soon, and they will have a booth at the fair and will be collecting indicator surveys, as well as passing out Meth information. Call 437-2460.

Carol Meyer announced a Begin At Birth Play Group every other week. This is free and takes place at the Children's House (located at the hospital) 10am-11:30am. The next one will be on August 15. There will be music, stories, play time, etc. They will be starting at the Housing Authority in mid September. It is open to any 0-4 year old kids and parents. Also a parent support group will be started. Call 434-3011.

Santiago Rodriquez said the Council on Alcohol is a 24 bed facility that is funded by the state for 4.24 beds. They consistently run around 14 beds, however. Other funding comes from donations and payments from clients. All are welcome to visit. Call 437-8942. There is a Labyrinth on site, about 90 feet across, and the clients walk it every day. This helps keeps them focused and helps relieve stress.

Lori Tilman said that the walk and dance programs at Otero PATH are going great. Tuesday night, dance will focus on salsa, and Thursday will be the waltz.

Barb Frick is new in town and provides a post abortion ministry. She wants to reach women who made these choices because 80% feel guilt and shame. In 1978, she had a crisis pregnancy and abortion. For 6 years, she stayed in denial and then changed her life. She began to deal with facts and allowed herself to grieve. She provides a Bible study that goes through the grieving process. Call 443-2018.

Gloria Vaughn thanked all who helped with the Welfare Reform Committee meeting. She also asked for people to fill out the form on universal health care and give back to her.

Jake Meyer said that Full House is working to get portables to house more 4 year olds for the PreK program. July 2, they opened the Children's House at the hospital which will house infants through preschoolers. Call Judy at 439-7271. Big Brothers Big Sisters is expanding thanks to Gloria and funding from the legislature. There are currently 2 job openings: FT director, recruiter. Call 434-3011.

Maria Gallegos said that Head Start is now under the child development umbrella. They have preschools in La Luz, Tularosa, and Alamogordo. There are job openings as well, and they are seeking a mental health consultant. The RFP for the consultant is available.

Janie Richardson said that the James House is under new management and the name has changed. She and Sylvia are both licensed and will be opening a counseling services when they have acquired space.

Tresa VanWinkle said that she will be at the fair with a labyrinth model and free Aqua Chi foot bath demonstrations.

Sylvia King is a LADAC and reiterated that she and Janie are no longer affiliated with James House. They regret they had to leave, but have been spending time at home for a while. The former James House number, 434-2016, belongs to them, and not the former James House, so they can be reached at this number. She thanked all for their support.

Alicia Rios said the Housing Authority is still renting houses.

Allen Stenger talked about the next meeting of OTEC, August 23. This is a week later than normal due to the fair. They will be focusing on education rather than policy issues this year. They are looking for new people to become part of OTEC. They hope to begin working with the asthma coalition as well.

Eddie Reeves said there will be a tobacco cessation starting after the fair at the hospital. Call 434-3011. No pre-registration is required, and if there is enough interest, they will do 2 classes. The first class will start at 7pm on August 22.

Angie Walsh thanked OTEC for their work. She is a volunteer at CAPPED, and encouraged all to tell people about CAPPED if they need services. She does a Scrap Booking group that helps support CAPPED. Anyone can join. She is also a face painter and is available for fairs, etc. Call 430-4915.

Grace McMillin announced the IEP workshop tomorrow. Also the next Behavioral Health Local Collaborative 12 meeting will be August 31 in this room. They will be talking about affordable housing, guardianships, etc. She is looking for day care centers that may be willing to work with the LC12 on providing childcare for parents wanting to attend meetings. The LC12 would pay for this. Call 430-7642.

Tina Godby-Ware attended an advanced SANE training and they now have 2 more nurses, including a Pediatric nurse. Her sister, Sky, is heading up a celebration Saturday, September 22, at Alamogordo public library. Call 437-0325.

Jean Jaszai runs the hospital ER. Call 443-7907 for information.

Raginée Mendoza is the new Health Educator at Ben Archer Health Center. This is a new position and she is still learning her job.

Al Hodges said Otero PATH will contract with SoAHEC for the Diabetes program. They plan a clearing house for people with diabetes, where you can get information. Call 437-2460.

Kristi Daugherty said Peak treats adults and youth ages 8 years and up. They are in the process of opening a geriatric program as well. They provide out patient services for Otero County, and treatment foster care.

Michael Murphy talked about the delay of implementation for the "Money Follows the Person" program. It was signed into law on March 8, 2006, and would allow Medicaid money to go with person (outside of nursing homes) without losing services. The state has created artificial slots on the elderly and disabled waiver, but this is different money. The waiting list for these waivers is now 4 years. He encouraged those interested to call the governors office about implementing the program. It passed both houses unanimously.

Next meeting: September 4, 2007, 11:30am - 1:00pm. Program pending.