

# HHI At-a-Glance

Nov - Dec 2012



## Southeast Region

Diabetes Today is a training program that looks at diabetes from a public health perspective. The goal of the training is to create community-based diabetes initiatives to help people deal with diabetes. The philosophy of this curriculum is that people can take charge of diabetes at the community level. Bonnie Bradley with the Arkansas Department of Health, Chronic Disease Branch provided the Diabetes Today training to the **Chicot Hometown Health Improvement Coalition** on November 26th. Community members were provided great information and shared their personal experiences dealing with diabetes.

## Southwest Region

The Southwest region has employed two full time extra help nurses this flu season to assist with vaccination outreach efforts. These nurses reach out to daycares, businesses, and any organization that desires to have an onsite flu clinic at their location. In the first four weeks these two nurses have administered over 2,100 flu vaccinations in the SW region. Many of these individuals would not obtain a flu immunization if it were not for the convenience offered by these onsite flu clinics.



With only a few schools remaining this flu season, the LHUs and volunteers of the SW region have given 21,200 flu immunizations in over 100 private and public schools. This is on pace to exceed what was given in the schools last year in the SW region.

## Northeast Region

### White County Local Health Unit

participated in the first Vote & Vax Campaign to combine voting and flu vaccinations at a local

church in downtown Searcy that was a voting site. Over 10% of the voters participated in the flu vaccine event, including some who had already voted but heard about the flu vaccine availability over the radio and came back to the site for their vaccine. One of the highlights was the visit of Governor Beebe, who came to vote. He had already received his flu vaccine, but commended the effort to reach the citizens of the county through this innovative event.

## Central Region

The **North Little Rock Health Department** hosted a Baby Safety Shower on October 8th to educate new and expecting moms about the importance of Infant Safety. North Little Rock Nursing staff educated participants regarding immunizations, family planning, and the importance of getting the annual flu vaccine. Other topics included safe sleep, child passenger safety, poison control, fall prevention, and home safety. WIC staff also provided information regarding WIC and Breastfeeding services. Several moms also received their flu vaccines following the shower.

## Northwest Region

The Delta Garden Study is a \$2 million study sponsored by the USDA and coordinated through the Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute. Yellville-Summit Elementary is one of seven selected sites to plant, grow, and harvest a garden this year through the study. With the garden, the lesson plan is to bring science, art, and even math outside. The project attempts to educate students on good nutrition and healthy lifestyles. The school has also applied for grants to plant fruit trees and grape arbor.

