

# Northwest Region Hometown Health Newsletter

October – December 2012

Arkansas Department of Health  
Hometown Health Improvement



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## Marshallese Islanders recognize residents at lunch

In Washington County more than 30 people ate and listened to speakers, including those who serve on the Gaps in Services to Marshallese Task Force and the Marshallese residents themselves.

Those who volunteer with the task force on behalf of the Marshallese migrants living in Northwest Arkansas not only got to partake in a meal featuring Marshallese, American and Chinese cuisine, they heard from a former

attorney general of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The 2010 U.S. Census counted 4,324 Marshallese living in Arkansas, most of them in Springdale. That is the highest population in the continental U.S., with Arkansas' population second only to Hawaii, which has about 7,400 Marshallese.

## Madison County Safety Baby Shower



Madison County hosted a Safety Baby Shower for Moms-to-be on December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Carroll Electric Building in Huntsville. Some of the presentation included: Poison Prevention, Temperature, Purple Crying, Back to Sleep, Car Seat Safety, Smoke Free ACT 811, drowning, falls, and burns/scalds. Door prizes were given to the moms-to-be and they each received a voucher for a new car seat.





### Car Seat Safety



Madison County Health Coalition (MCHC) partnered with Fayetteville Police Department, Madison County Sheriff's Department, and UAMS to conduct a "Car Seat Safety Event Day" October 27, 2012 in Madison County. Car seats were obtained through a grant by the Community Based Injury Prevention Initiative CPS Award for Madison County.

In a matter of four hours 119 car seats were installed by certified installers for parents or grandparents who needed a convertible car seat, a high back booster, or a big boy booster seat for their child or grandchild. Each parent/grandparent received educational materials about the dangers of secondhand smoke, the importance of smoke-free cars, the Clear the Air Campaign, and Act 811. Act 811 is a primary law that prohibits smoking in all vehicles when a child under 14 years of age is present. A vehicle can be pulled over and the driver may receive a ticket for violating the law.



### Van Buren County T.E.A. Coalition

Van Buren County Judge, Roger Hooper, declared this week (10/22/2012) "Red Ribbon Week" for our THUGS (Teens Having Untied Goals).



### Way to go Newton County!

Newton County Health Unit Administrator, Regina Tkachuk and her staff hosted an "ADH" Booth as well as a Newton County Drug Free Coalition booth in their county. Regina educated and recruited coalition members at her Drug Free booth. They displayed visuals that depicted "Cigarette tar in your lungs" and "Teeth on spit tobacco."





## *It takes teamwork to get a handle on an outbreak!*

### **Whooping Cough at Clinton School District**

In November there was an outbreak of Pertussis (whooping cough) at Clinton School District. Health Department medical professionals worked closely with local doctors and the school to reduce the spread of the disease.



*Pertussis is a highly contagious respiratory illness that can cause serious illness in infants, children, and adults. People with pertussis usually spread the disease by coughing or sneezing while in close contact with others, who then breathe in the pertussis bacteria.*

A special clinic was held by the Arkansas Department of Health to administer Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis) vaccinations on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The clinic was held to combat the recent outbreak of Pertussis in area schools and to the public. The public clinic's parking lot stayed full for the entire duration of the clinic, 9:00 am through 3:00 pm. To date, approximately 2,500 immunizations were administered, though there are still a few cases being reported.

***This was a sure sign of teamwork and a passion to have a healthy community!***



Brady Holt, in Van Buren County, waits to receive his vaccine from Leszlie Hale.

## *NW Arkansas Leads in Fighting the Flu for 2012*

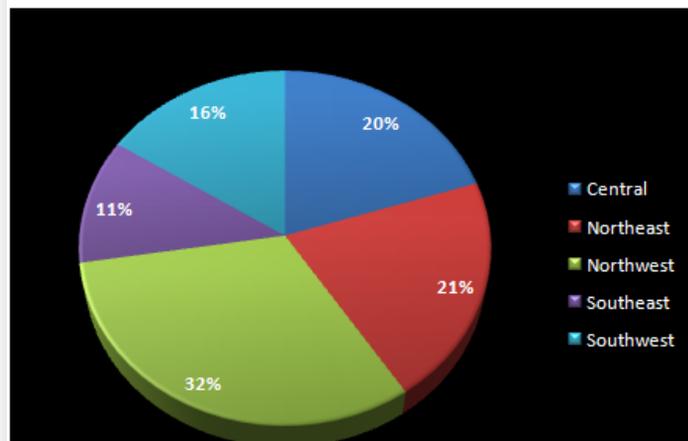
### **2012 Total Doses for Schools and Mass Flu Clinics**

1/10/2013

Region	School Doses	Mass Doses	Total Doses
Central	38,028	9,817	47,845
Northeast	39,536	9,455	48,991
Northwest	56,237	19,675	75,912
Southeast	16,176	11,068	27,244
Southwest	26,373	11,713	38,086
	176,350	61,728	238,078



Holly Gordon of Washington County shows her children where she got her flu shot at the ADH Flu Clinic at the Jones Center in Springdale.



Northwest AR took the lead this year administering 32% of the entire state's Flu Vaccines. Good job Northwest!!



### *EHS receive training from FEMA*



Environmental Health Specialists Starr Leyva and Piper Satterfield, from the Arkansas Department of Health Benton County Health Unit in Rogers, recently completed training offered by the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), in Anniston, AL. Leyva and Satterfield completed a 4-day course titled Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response (EHTER). The course focuses on key Environmental Health topics and how they relate to the issues and challenges faced during an emergency response. A few of the topics covered included water disinfection, sewage disposal, food safety, identifying biological and chemical hazards, and emergency shelters. "The EHTER course takes our skills as health inspectors and applies them to a disaster situation such as tornado strike, long-term power outages, or flooding" said Satterfield. According to Leyva, "Those that attend the training will gain critical skills and confidence to effectively respond to local disaster incidents."

### *Food for children during the Holiday Break*



Conway County Hometown Health Coalition sponsored a Backpack Food Drive in December. The food was distributed to Conway County Schools to ensure children had adequate food over Christmas break. Suggested foods were asked to be non perishable, small and light. The list included items such as Vienna Sausages, beanie weenies, fruit cups, cereal bars, cheese crackers, etc. They had two drop off locations at the Morrilton Senior Adult Center, and Mr. Quick Lube.



*Northwest Region Employee of the Year~ Whitney Ward, NP*

NW Region Employee of the Year~ Whitney Ward, NP

Picture left to right: Jan Layton, Whitney Ward, Don Murray



*Northwest Region Local Health Unit of the Year~ Sebastian County*

NW Region Local Health Unit of the Year~ Sebastian County

Pictured left to right: Don Murray, John Taylor, Kathy Fry, Jo Wester, Jan Layton



*Northwest Region Local Health Unit runners up:  
Franklin, Marion, Madison, Crawford*

Left Picture: Franklin County LHU Rebecca Wright & Priscilla Banuelos

Top Middle Picture: Marion County LHU Traci Holmes, Heather Anderson, Valerie Shipman

Bottom Middle Picture: Crawford County LHU Denise Harmon, Michelle Hammer, Shiloh Henry

Right Picture: Madison County LHU Judy Houston & Shana Villines





## Sebastian County Health Unit Open House



Sebastian County Judge David Hudson announced an Open House for the remodeled County/City Health Unit on Tuesday, October 30, at 2:00 pm at the facility located at 3312 South 70<sup>th</sup> Street in Fort Smith. The county received a State Health Department Grant that assisted in remodeling the Health Unit and expanded the parking to support the facility by purchasing additional land south of the Health Unit. Sebastian County and the City of Fort Smith shared matching expenses for the grant and also shared additional expenses to remodel all of the bathrooms in the Health Unit, which was not funded by the grant project. The public was invited to attend.

## Searcy County Health Unit Hosts Growing Healthy Communities Planning Meeting

On December 7, 2012 Searcy County Health Unit Administrator, Libby Seftar, brought together more than nineteen key community stakeholders and leaders to brainstorm on how they can make their communities healthier. There was lots of excitement and commitment to work together between the three towns in the county. The ideas were used to develop the Growing Healthy Communities 2013 grant application. The grant is provided by the Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention; due on December 21, 2012.





## Car Seat Event in Searcy County

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Searcy County Health Unit, the Searcy County Department of Human Services and Marshall First United Methodist Church partnered to offer its first ever car seat event. Thirty-three new car seats were issued and forty-two existing seats were checked for proper fit and safety regulations. Certified technicians from Little Rock, Boone County, and Van Buren County assisted. Volunteers from the church put together snack bags for every child and assisted parents by watching the children during the fitting process. Twenty-three Volunteers worked to make the event a huge success!



Left: Corporal Justin Ricketts and Judge Johnny Hinchey with new car seats.

Above: All the volunteers that participated.

## A Perfect Partnership

Once a quarter, the staff from Searcy County DHS and ADH meet for a joint “Snack and Learn” meeting. At the meetings each agency highlights a program. Speakers come and present a 30 minute orientation to a program and then hold a discussion on ways DHS and ADH can partner and improve patient referral. They also have an hour “motivational” speaker. The DHS Administrator, Chris Holden and Libby Seftar, ADH Administrator realized early on that they could help their clients by understanding what each agency offers. The goal is to increase referrals, make the patient referral process easy and seamless, as well as motivate the employees to evaluate clients for service needs other than for routine programs. The two meetings have been a huge success. The In-Home Service staff attends meetings and feels it is a natural partnership which helps the community.

Routinely 35-40 people attend. ADH employee, Debby Harris presented on Breast Care, and Pat Purifoy from In Home Services presented on Trust and Respect. DHS speakers presented an A+ program and Ralph Burns from the Secretary of State’s office presented on Motor Voter Act. The next meeting scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup> will feature WIC and Access Arkansas programs.





**Blue & You  
Foundation**  
For a Healthier Arkansas 

## *Searcy County Christmas Tree*

Searcy County LHU has a Christmas tree decorated with beanie babies. Each child that comes into the clinic gets to go pick one from the tree. No child goes away empty handed. It gives the children something to look forward to after the dreaded immunization or finger stick!



## *Madison County Community Coalition Receives High Recognition*

Our health communications and marketing efforts continue to garner national attention. The National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) announced its 2012 Awards for Excellence in Public Health Communication winners last week. Materials produced by ADH programs agency-wide as well as materials produced by an HHI Coalition earned 10 certificates of excellence. Only California with 14 and Alaska with 12 won more! In all, 86 awards were presented among the record 321 entries submitted by 47 agencies around the country. Madison County ranked highest in the state with Gold for In-House Radio Marketing, WAY TO GO MADISON!!!

## *Blue and You 2013 NWA Grant Recipients*

Harrison~ Brandon Burlsworth Foundation (\$50,000)

**The Eyes of a Champion Program will provide free eye exams and glasses to 880 preschool through 12th grade students in Arkansas. Funding will provide eye exams and glasses for underserved students, along with educational material to nurses, counselors and optometrists.**

Ozark~ Franklin County EMS (\$135, 878)

**Cardiac Monitor Upgrade will update four current cardiac monitors by purchasing new monitors to replace them. This funding will be beneficial to all citizens of Franklin County who might need medical assistance.**

Rogers~ Samaritan House Community Center (\$15,000)

**Samaritan Health Clinic will expand its dental program to offer a full range of dental services (extractions, restorative, preventive) for 250 uninsured adults in Benton and Washington Counties.**

Fayetteville~ U of A Foundation Inc. (\$98,000)

**The Northwest Arkansas Graduate Medical Education Consortium will expand medical residency training in Internal Medicine with a total of 24 residents every three years (eight per year). Training will take place in Washington, Benton and Sebastian Counties.**

Fayetteville~ Youth Bridge Inc. (\$150,000)

**The Electronic Medical Record System allows Youth Bridge to continue providing mental health, medical-related, and substance abuse services to 250 low-income youth on Medicaid from eight counties.**



## Marion County's Yellville-Summit School grows food for thought

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 this 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. This grant allowed Yellville-Summit to erect a greenhouse frame, purchase a chicken coop, and chickens, and grow a garden. The students are getting a chance to experience first-hand how food is produced. Sara Fulton-Koerbling has a degree in culinary arts and is teaching the students how to prepare healthy meals using the vegetables they have grown. The school has also applied for grants to plant fruit trees and a garden arbor.



## 100 Years of Public Health in Arkansas



The New Year is approaching fast. This year will be a special one for ADH as it will be our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. A 100 Years of Public Health in Arkansas Workgroup is working to plan an entire year of celebration and recognition in the State. Now is the time to encourage your Hometown Health Coalitions to celebrate the 100 Year birthday on a local level next year. There will be a State proclamation and your County Judge may want to make a proclamation on a local level.

February 25, 2013 is the actual anniversary.

**Public Health Week is the 1<sup>st</sup> week in April 2013. There will be celebrations hosted by the Central Office and the Local Health Units throughout the state. Please encourage Hometown Health Improvement Coalitions and other work groups to celebrate this 100 Year birthday in their local community sometime in 2013. Specific tools, including a PowerPoint presentation, are in development, stay tuned!**





*Meetings and Information for your area*

## *Hometown Health Improvement Coalition Information List*

COUNTY	ADMINISTRATOR	ADDRESS	PHONE	COALITION NAME	MEETING DAY	CHAIR
<b>BAXTER</b>	Judy Martin	PO Box 308 Mtn Home 72653	(870) 405-9639	Baxter County HHI	4th Monday Baxter County Library Noon	Julia Gist
<b>BENTON</b>	Loy Bailey	1202 SW 14th, Bentonville 72712	(479) 986-1300	Benton County HHI	Last Thursday every 2 months Noon @ Center for Non Profits Rogers	Loy Bailey
		116 W. Broadway Siloam Springs	(479) 549-3143	Bridges to Wellness Rural Health Network	3rd Tuesday @ Arvest Bank 6:30 pm	Emerson Goodwin
<b>BOONE</b>	Tami McCutchen	1622 Campus Dr, Harrison 72061	(870) 743-5244	Boone County HHI	Meets Quarterly Wednesday Noon @ the Durand Center	Tami McCutchen
<b>CARROLL</b>	Sherri Plumlee	402 Haile Road, Berryville 72616	(870) 423-2923	Circle of Life	Not meeting regularly	Audrey Zavaleta
<b>CONWAY</b>	Jaynie Jones	100 Hospital Drive Morrilton 72110	(501) 354-4652	Conway County Health Coalition	2nd Tues. 2:00 pm @ Sr. Adult Ctr	Janet Cook
<b>CRAWFORD</b>	Michelle Hammer	2040 Chestnut Van Burnen, 72956	(479) 474-6391	CCHEC	4th Tuesday @ 11:30 am LHU	Patty Braun
<b>FRANKLIN</b>	Rebecca Wright	799 W. River St. Ozark, 72949	(479) 667-2555	Right C.H.O.I.C.E.S.	4th Monday @ Noon (Methodist Church)	Jennifer Ree
<b>JOHNSON</b>	Judy Bradley	#6 Professional Park Clarksville, 72830	(479) 754-2949	Johnson County Resource Alliance	4th Wednesday @ Noon (Emerald Dragon)	Judy Bradley
<b>LOGAN</b>	Paula Beaty	150 S. Lowder, Paris 72855 OR 721 W. 1st Booneville 72927	(479) 963-6126 (479) 963-6674	Logan County Coalition	2nd Tuesday @ 3:30 Paris LHU	Interim Miranda Curbow
<b>MADISON</b>	Shana Villines	709 N. Countyllge Hunstville 72740	(479) 738-2612	Madison County Health Coalition	3rd Monday Noon @ Masonic Lodge	Dr. Travis Embry
<b>MARION</b>	Valerie Shipman	P. O. Box 129 Yellville 72687	(870) 449-4259	Marion County HHI	3rd Monday LHU Yellville 5:30 pm	Connie Davenport
<b>NEWTON</b>	Regina Tkachuk	506 W Countyurt St, Jasper 72641	(870) 446-2216	Newton County HHI	2nd Thursday 10AM @ Newton County Special Services	Jeff Dezort
<b>POPE</b>	Pam Sellars	203 Weir Road Russellville 72801	(479) 968-6004	River Valley Prevention Coalition	2nd Tues 3:30 pm @ Pope County LHU	Margie Smith & Angie White
<b>SCOTT</b>	Darla Mortimore	316 Featherston St. Waldron, 72958	(479) 637-2165	S.C.H.E.C	1st Wednesday @ Noon (RMCC)	Lisa Harrison
<b>SEARCY</b>	Libby Seftar	742 Airport Road Marshall 72650	(870) 448-3374	Searcy County Prevention Coalition	4th Thur Noon PetitJean Elec. Marshall	Renee Kyle
				Ozark Mtn Rural Health Network	1st Friday Noon Ozark Health Foundation	Darrell Moore
<b>SEBASTIAN</b>	Jo Wester	3112 S. 70th Fort Smith, 72903	(479) 452-8600	Y.C.O.C	1st Tuesday House of Praise @11:30	Mona Clemons
<b>VAN BUREN</b>	Donna Branscum	PO Box 452 Clinton 72031	(501) 745-2485	T.E.A. Coalition	3rd Thur Noon Ozark Health Foundation	Sara Bates
				Ozark Mt. Health Network	1st Friday Noon Ozark Health Foundation	Darrell Moore
<b>WASHINGTON</b>	Lana Rogers	3270 Wimberly Drive, Fayetteville 72703	(479) 521-8181	NWAHHI	2nd Wednesday 8:00 am @ LHU	Tyler Clark
			(479) 750-4930	Gaps in Service to Marshallese Task Force	4th Wednesday LHU @ 2:00 pm	Grace Donohoe
				Northwest Safe Communities	1st Monday @ LHU or PRC	Ches Jones
<b>YELL</b>	J. M. Graves	PO Box 628 Danville 72833 719 N. 5th Dardanella 72834	(479) 495-2741 (479) 229-3509	Yell Meth Task Force	1st Thurs @ Noon Dard.Chamber or Danv. First Baptist	Montie Sims



## ***HHI Support Staff Contact Information***

*Linda Thompson~ (Fayetteville Regional Office) NW Region HHI Program Manger  
479-444-7700 Ext. 207*

### ***Hometown Health Coordinators***

*Kathleen Holloway~ Fayetteville Regional Office (Benton, Carroll, Boone, Marion, Baxter, Washington, Madison, Newton) 479-444-7700 Ext. 210*

*Kim Boren~ Russellville Regional Office (Searcy, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Pope, Van Buren, Conway, Sebastian, Logan, Scott, Yell) 479-968-3254 Ext. 127*

### ***Health Information Specialists***

*Tera Dacus~ Russellville Regional Office (Baxter, Marion, Searcy, Van Buren, Pope, Conway, Yell) 479-968-3254 Ext. 131*

*Samantha Minster~ Russellville Regional Office (Johnson, Franklin, Crawford, Sebastian, Logan, Scott) 479-968-3254 Ext. 129*

*Vacant Position~ Fayetteville Regional Office (Benton, Carroll, Boone, Washington, Madison, Newton) 479-444-7700 Ext. 206*

### ***Grants Administrator***

*Scotty Manning~ NW Region, Russellville Regional Office 479-968-3254 Ext. 120*

### ***CHPS & CHNS Supervisor***

*Marilyn Cone~ North Region Supervisor, 501-882-5128*

### ***CHPS***

*Christine McKnelly~ Arch Ford Co-op (Pope, Van Buren, Faulkner, Conway, Yell, Crawford, Logan, Scott, Sebastian, Johnson, Franklin) 479-567-0367*

*Sarah Brisco~ OUR Co-op (Carroll, Boone, Searcy, Newton, Marion, Madison, Benton, Washington) 870-926-6954*

### ***CHNS***

*Cheria Lindsey~ OUR Co-op (Carroll, Boone, Searcy, Newton, Marion Plus~ Cotter, Oark, & Kingston Schools) 870-688-9077*

*Mary McCraw~ Arch Ford Co-op (Pope, Van Buren, Cleburne, Faulkner, Conway, Perry, Yell) 501-354-2269 Ext. 1026*

*Nancy Marsh~ NWA Co-op (Benton, Washington, Madison) 479-422-1518*

*Miranda Curbow~ Western Ark. Co-op (Johnson, Franklin, Crawford, Sebastian, Logan, Scott) 479-438-0724*