

Southeast Region HHI Report for November 2011

Arkansas County: The ACPIH coalition sponsored a Diabetes Lunch and Learn co hosted with the hospital to kick off the new Diabetes Education Program; 55 attendees. "Tobacco Free-Know the ABC's" was utilized at the Park Avenue Elementary Afterschool program with 108 children. The Tobacco Trends Presentation was shared with about 8 worksite well and new ADH staff to educate them on the new emerging tobacco products. Worked with Lennox Manufacturing as they are trying to encourage employees to go tobacco free; set up health booths and enrolled 3 individuals for quit line.

Ashley County: Healthy lifestyle seminars are being held at local churches in partnership with the County Cooperative Extension Service. A new sidewalk was installed in Hamburg on Cherry St. for walkability to school (environmental change).

Bradley County: Through a \$2000.00 grant there was a Diabetes Forum held in Warren. A partnership with the Bradley county HHI and the hospital staff

Chicot County: An Oral Health presentation was done with Pre-school children in Lake Village.

Desha County: Hypertension awareness, Nutrition, National Diabetes Month awareness were all tied into the Mass Flu Clinics. Daughters of Charity set up an Explore My Plate area in Dumas where participants had to walk from table to table to learn about the different food groups. Each participant received a healthy bag to go along with that food group and held an exercise session. In McGehee participants played Who Wants to be a Foodanaire to have fun learning about foods and had commercial breaks. Blue and You sponsored these events with grant money to promote National Diabetes Month in November.

Drew County: November 17th is the GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE OUT, and the Tobacco Control Youth Board contacted Mayor Alan Maxwell, who came to Drew Central and signed a proclamation for the GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE OUT DAY. This is a national cessation day held every year by the American Cancer Society. This is the 36th year it has been recognized. The day is selected to raise awareness on the dangers of tobacco and to help tobacco users quit, for at least one day, with the hope that they will quit for good.

The Mayor also passed an ordinance to make all Monticello City parks Tobacco Free. Signs have been posted at entrances.

Jefferson County: Smoke Free Pledge Cards were given to Robert Moorehead Middle School in awareness of Tobacco Free Day.

Monroe County: A Diabetes presentation was given at Mid-South Health Systems; Delta AHEC provided screenings for those attending. The ARCOP recently awarded Monroe County \$5000.00 from the Foundation of the Mid-South due to the success of the work being done in Monroe County with community gardens with TA from the ARCOP meetings. This funding will go toward an irrigation system

with the Community Gardens in Brinkley; in Clarendon it will promote the new walking track by adding benches and workout stations and planting trees.

ST. Francis County: The HHI Network celebrated 10 years as a coalition/network. Emily Harris presented the Match data to the county. The coalition shared past successes.

Community Health Nurse/Promotion Specialist

Rosemary Withers. Community Health Promotion Specialist, presented oral health, nutrition and Physical Activity work shop at 5 Head Start Centers and the Family Community Development Center. Also provided toothbrushes and toothpaste to kids and parents at the Head Starts and using the oral healthy curriculum.

Lisa England set up tobacco display at local high school Basketball games where people could sign Smoke Free Pledges. The Southeast Arkansas Educational Cooperative was awarded 18 part-time AmeriCorp slots for the 2011-2012 school years. The AmeriCorp will be providing lessons on “My Plate” and tobacco education to the 8 counties within this Educational Cooperative.

STAR.Health: At the Arkansas Chapter March of Dimes received the March of Dimes Public Service Committee and the March of Dimes Audrey Manley “Program Leadership Award” for their participation in the STAR.Health Initiative in Desha, Chicot, and Lincoln Counties. The text of the award reads: “For Chapter excellence in the development of March of Dimes Programs designed to reduce risk for preterm birth, birth defects and infant mortality in at-risk populations, and reduce racial and ethnic disparities in birth outcomes.” The plaque reads Arkansas Chapter, STAR.Health Project 2011. The March of Dimes has been providing funding for the last two years to pay the salary of a CHW and provided technical assistance and funding for office supplies.