

News You Can Use

Lighthouse of Wisdom Youth Center Health Fair

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Pictured: University of Arkansas for Medical Science (UAMS) mammovAN

The Lighthouse of Wisdom Youth Center located in Rison held a health fair on Friday, May, 15th. Several vendors set up for the day's event. The Cleveland County Hometown Health Improvement Coalition helped sponsor the day's event. This was the first health fair held by these organizations and it was a huge success with more than 132 people who participated. There were educational opportunities for adults and children.



Pictured: Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency table

Vendors such as: The Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency (Arora), along with many Arkansas Department of Health services set up booths, such as the Woman Infant and Children program, the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program, emergency preparedness and poison control. Many activities were planned for children such as bubble blowing, cotton candy and a drunk driving demonstration. The Department of Human Services was also present with mobile Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) van to register community members for their services. Each participant was asked to complete an evaluation and was given a bag containing contact information and other educational material. Lunch was also provided.



Pictured: Drug Identification Guide



Bullying Education



Pictured: Juanita Buckmaster

Community Health Applied in Medical Public Service (CHAMPS) is a one week program intended for junior high students. This program provides students with hands-on experiences in health careers, health education and community service. Juanita Buckmaster, Community Health Nurse Specialist, was the guest speaker on June 25th. She spoke to the junior high students on bullying. The group was shown a DVD entitled “Bullying True Stories”. Each student was then asked to participate in short scenarios which emphasized the importance of preparing ahead of time in order to stop bullying. There were approximately 20 students at the program.

Ashley County Safety Baby Showers



The Ashley County Hometown Health Improvement Coalition held two safety baby showers in Crossett and Hamburg. Topics covered include risks for low birth weight babies, the importance of prenatal care and taking care of oneself during and after pregnancy. During this event, the mothers along with family and friends, learned how to keep their baby safe at home. Educational materials were given such as laying the baby on his/her back to sleep, infant mortality and much more. Those who attended received prizes and other exciting gifts. There were appropriately 20 mothers and guests at both events.

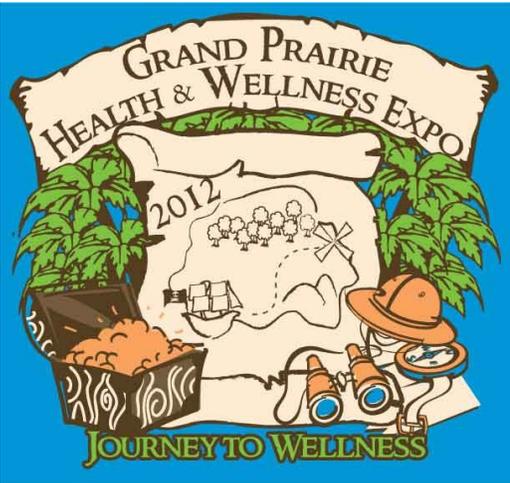
Chicot County Celebrates

On June 13th, Chicot County celebrated two years of successes. This milestone was celebrated with a short power point presentation on the health initiatives hosted by the coalition over the last year. Ms. Osie Barnes gave a short update on how successful the “Know Your Numbers” initiative was at the annual Crawfish Festival. Updates on job opportunities were also given to coalition members. As a token of appreciation each member was given a bag with health materials and promotional items and served a healthy lunch.



Pictured: Coalition members

Health and Wellness Expo



Arkansas County Partners in Health along with the Arkansas Minority Health Commission hosted the annual Grand Prairie Health and Wellness Expo in Stuttgart on June 28th. The title for this years expo was “A Journey to Wellness”. This year new activities for youth were available along with classroom activities filled with health education programs. A never-before done outdoor classroom was also available for children to participate in. Several vendors were present to provide information on chronic disease, tobacco prevention and cessation along with many, many more. Additional sponsors provided an opportunity for community members to have their blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood glucose checked free of charge. There was also an opportunity for the participants to engage in physical activity and they were also provided information on the importance of a healthy diet. There were more than 500

Women's National Health Luncheon



National Women’s Health Week is a weeklong health observance that highlight health concerns in the female population. It brings together communities, businesses, government, health organizations and other groups in an effort to promote women’s health. The theme for 2012 is “It’s Your Time”. National Women’s Health Week empowers women to make their health a top priority. In order to celebrate National Women's Health day, the Desha Count Hometown Health Improvement Project, (D-HHIP), held a women's health luncheon in Dumas. Pictured is D-HHIP chair, Heather Day who presented on “Wearing Many Hates”, which is a presentation on the importance of being able to multitask and time management. Information on hormone therapy was also provided to the participants. Other information on women's health was provided also with educational and promotional items. There were approximately 30 women who attended the event.

Mom & Me Celebration

The Mom & Me Program began in Desha County one year ago. Pictured are moms who have completed the program by reaching the goal of spacing babies by 24 months. Carolyn Blissett, Local Health Administrator and Linda Austin, Community Health Worker, praised the moms for a job well done! Each mother was presented gift baskets and a certificate of completion.



Pictured: Mom & Me participants along with Linda

Southeast Tidbits

Ashley County: Tammy Cook, Local Health Unit Administrator, along with Iris Phifer, from the Cooperative Extension gave a presentation on “My Plate” to Strong Women participants and 20 Head Start workers.

Diabetes packages were distributed to local doctors offices and businesses to highlight services HHI can provide.

Chicot County: Chicot County HHI distributed health education and injury prevention material to more than 330 community members at weekend community event.

Desha County: Desha County Hometown Health Improvement Project held a Senior Health day with approximately 106 participants. Information on injury prevention and “Know Your Numbers” was provided along with a healthy lunch prepared by Abundant Life Church.

Drew County: Community Health Nurse Specialist, Lisa England, held her annual Luau which included updates on: tobacco prevention efforts, the most recent tobacco data and tobacco prevention. A display and materials for participants was also provided with 50 participants attending each day.

Drew H.E.A.L.T.H sponsored the 2nd Health Leadership Academy on June 20th. The focus of this workshop was “Dealing with Difficult People” presented by Misty Paschall.

Lee County: On June 15th, the Annual Tobacco Free Walk/Community Avenues Conference was held. This conference focused on protective factors that will decrease the likelihood of creating a negative outcome. Lee County HHI Coalition had three booths that contained information on injury prevention, tobacco prevention and cessation and other services offered by the local health unit.

Southeast Region HHI Monthly Meeting Schedule

Arkansas County 2nd Tuesday
Ashley County 4th Tuesday
Bradley County 3rd Wednesday
Chicot County 2nd Wednesday
Cleveland County 2nd Wednesday
Desha County 2nd Tuesday
Drew County 1st Wednesday
Jefferson County 1st Wednesday
Lee County 2nd Wednesday
Lincoln County 2nd Wednesday
Monroe County 4th Tuesday
Phillips County 3rd Tuesday
Prairie County 2nd Thursday
St. Francis County 1st Tuesday

Southeast Region HHI Support Staff

Kaye Murry-HHI Regional Manager
Kimber Knight- Grants Administrator
Shealese Washington- HHI Coordinator
Kandra Torrence -Public Health Educator