

HHI At-a-glance

Mar-Apr 2010

Southeast Region

The **Jefferson County** HHI Youth Committee Celebration was held on March 18, 2010 at the Arkansas River Education Service Cooperative. Quranner Cotledge presented data on Jefferson County's health outcomes and health factors and a brief history of the Hometown Health Improvement Initiative. The speaker for the event was Marian Evans, Program Coordinator of the Minority Initiative Sub-Recipient Grant at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, spoke on Building and Sustaining Coalitions.

Lee County now can boast of **SMOKE FREE PARKS** thanks to the tireless efforts of Arlene Freeman, a Tobacco Prevention and Cessation grantees. She recruited teens that gathered adult signatures on petitions requesting that parks be smoke free. Marianna is now only the 3rd in the state to take such an action to ban smoking in the parks.

Northeast Region

Local officials and representatives from St. Bernard's Medical Center in Craighead County and the ADH celebrated the receipt of the first installment, \$125,000, of on-going funding for the hospital's participation in the state's new trauma system.



Southwest Region

On National Kick Butts Day, March 24th, the local SPU youth who were on spring break got up at the crack of dawn and headed to Little Rock to join the Y.E.S. (Youth Extinguishing Smoking) Team in a visual protest. Over 200 youth visited the capitol that day to represent youth against tobacco. The YES Teams and the SPU groups displayed a powerful and impacting visual protest as they marched down Capitol Avenue. Joined together, this group brought forth a message of unity against secondhand smoke and tobacco usage in general.



Hometown Health Improvement



Northwest Region

Members of the Scott County Health and Education Coalition (SCHEC) presented Grand Rounds at ADH on February 18. The focus was on promoting SCHEC and its past and future successes, including the efforts to prevent underage drinking and the passing of the Social Host Ordinance in January 2009. This presentation highlighted over two years of effort and work dedicated to improving the health of Scott County Youth.

Regional Chronic Disease Forums

The **Regional Chronic Disease Forums**, "Stay Informed. Stay Healthy: Arkansas's Roadmap to Chronic Disease Prevention," were held in NE, NW, SE, and SW Regions in March, followed by the state forum in April. Community partners were invited to participate in one of a series of regional Chronic Disease planning meetings which occurred across the state. Information gathered at these meetings was presented at the State Chronic Disease Forum and incorporated into the development of the Arkansas 2010 Chronic Disease State Plan. Regional Hometown Health Improvement Support Staff assisted with location arrangements and facilitation in the breakout sessions.

