

# HHI At-a-glance

Jul-Aug 2010

## Southwest Region

To raise awareness of the demonstration garden in **Dallas County** and celebrate the achievements of the volunteers who have given their time to make it a success, a “garden party” was held at the garden site. The event served as an educational tool for youth and adults to identify insects and plants, learn basic gardening techniques, and participate in harvesting the produce.



**Howard County** Farmers Market held its 2010 Grand Opening ceremony Friday, June 18. A ribbon-cutting and Chamber Coffee were also held during the grand opening to celebrate the Market joining the Chamber this year.



## Southeast Region

The 1st Annual teen summit was held in **Ashley County** targeting minority youth. There were about 75 youth in attendance. The Public Health Investigator gave a talk on sexually transmitted diseases and attendees were given SOS pencils and tobacco prevention and cessation material.

**Drew County** LHU hosted a Minority Health Fair in Monticello with the Arkansas Minority Health Commission on July 22, 2010. Approximately 100 community members attended where there were screenings offered free of charge and health information distributed. Booths were set up by various agencies to share the services they provide to the community. Screenings provided included BMI, HIV, Syphilis, cholesterol, blood sugar, blood pressure, vision and hearing.

The Senate Subcommittee on Minority Health of the Arkansas General Assembly had a legislative public forum that evening at the VFW Building in Monticello. The meeting was chaired by Senator Jack Crumbly, District 16. Topics included Drew County health statistics, presented by Dr. Joe Bates from the Arkansas Department of Health. Local agencies gave presentations about their programs and then there was a question and answer period.

## Hometown Health Improvement



## Northeast Region

The **Cleburne County** Sheriff’s Office held a Prescription Drug Turn Back Program at Payton Chevrolet in Heber Springs. Sheriff Marty Moss says more than 14,000 prescription pills, syrups, and other forms of drugs are now out of local medicine cabinets, and out of the reach of drug abusers and experimenting teenagers’ hands thanks to the Prescription Drug Turn Back Program. Prescription drug turn back events provide an opportunity for citizens to legally discard their unused/expired medications in an environmentally safe manner.

## Central Region

Project HOPE ‘s CARE subcommittee started running the underage drinking PSA’s on the cable networks in **Garland County**. These PSA’s are a part of their year long campaign on underage drinking prevention that will run from June 2010 to July 2011. The PSA’s will also be posted to You Tube and the coalitions Face Book page.

## Northwest Region

Baxter Regional Medical Center donated \$1,000 to **Baxter County** Hometown Health toward the funding for the 2010 Baxter County Teen Summit. Baxter County Tobacco Control Committee program coordinator, three volunteers and four student members of the YES team completing a two day peer to peer training at a YES Team conference. ADH and state law enforcement joined forces at a press conference on May 6th in Fayetteville, AR, to alert Arkansans that local police will be on the lookout for drivers smoking in cars with children, violators will be pulled over and fined. The press conference was one of several to kickoff a statewide campaign to increase enforcement and raise awareness of Act 13, which makes it a primary offense to smoke in a car carrying children under the age of six and weighing less than 60 pounds.

