

PIKE COUNTY CONNECTIONS

Collaborate ♦ Communicate ♦ Connect

The Pike County Community Health Partnership Newsletter

June 2008



From the Coordinator's Desk

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Pike County Community Health Partnership! My intention is that this newsletter will be a means to **communicate and connect** Pike County residents to promote **collaboration** of efforts related to our shared vision.

As the Partnership Coordinator, my goal is to help all of you connect with like-minded individuals and entities, facilitate your communication around the issues at hand, and support your collaboration toward common goals related to health, wellness, and quality of life.

By working collaboratively, we can combine our resources of time, energy, and talent to achieve more than any of us could do alone.

Over time, I will work diligently to bring in outside resources from grant dollars, charitable donations, and other revenue streams so that our own fiscal limitations won't hold us back from meeting our many needs and achieving our goals.

Together, we can build a quality of life in Pike County equal to the quality of our beautiful landscapes, majestic historic homes, rich Lincoln heritage, and abundant agricultural bounty.

I look forward to getting to know each of you as we share our talents and work together for the future of Pike County.

Michele

Steering Committee Members:

Katie Wilson & Karen Epley
Mental Health Centers of Western
Illinois, Pike County location

Jennifer Mowen
University of Illinois Extension,
Pike County Unit

Connie Schroeder & Kathryn Rowles
Illini Community Hospital

Anita Andress & Jan Bleich
Pike County Health Department

Patricia McIntosh
Illini Community Health Care
Foundation

At-Large Members:

Brenda Middendorf
Two Rivers Resource Conservation
and Development Area

Vacant

PIKE COUNTY
Community Health Partnership

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VISION:

**All enjoy the highest degree of health,
wellness and quality of life possible.**

MISSION:

**To collaboratively strengthen the
health and wellness of those served in
Pike County.**

PCCHP Awarded \$65,750 in Federal Funds to Conduct Strategic Planning

After long hours and late nights, the PCCHP Steering Committee submitted a Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant proposal to the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration.

In June 2008, their hard work paid off with confirmation that the grant had been awarded with full funding! To receive federal grant dollars is a huge accomplishment!

The PCCHP is thrilled to have this opportunity for growth through community needs assessment and strategic planning as defined in the grant.

This grant allows us to hire:

- **A Project Assistant** to provide additional manpower in implementing the grant.
- **A consultant** to conduct a comprehensive county-wide health needs assessment.
- **A consultant** to facilitate the development of a 2-3 year strategic plan incorporating the health needs assessment findings.
- **A legal firm** to execute a formal Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding between the Steering Committee members.

Desired Outcomes of the Grant Process:

- Through the **Community Needs Assessment**, we will identify and prioritize the 3 to 5 most pressing health care needs in Pike County.
- We will develop a 2 to 3 year **Strategic Plan** that will:
 - Utilize research-based interventions related to the identified needs.
 - Focus our efforts on the identified needs.
 - Increase the sustainability of the PCCHP by identifying future grant funding, fiscal contributors, and other funding resources.
- We will **strengthen the PCCHP** by executing a Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding between Steering Committee members.
- After successfully completing the requirements of the Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant, we will apply for and be awarded a subsequent grant to **implement the Strategic Plan**.

"We will surely get to our destination if we join hands."

Kyi, Aung San Suu Burmese political leader (1945-)



For Members Only!

Please share your organizations' initiatives, activities, and goals related to health and wellness. Collaboration is critical to the achievement of our mission. In order to collaborate, we first must communicate and connect to find areas of shared interest.

Please submit an article to share what you are doing, what you hope to do, and how others may join (or have already joined) in your efforts.

This section is for you!

Commitment of a Founding Member

Submitted by Jan Bleich, PCHD

Pike County Health Department (PCHD) is committed to the philosophy that each individual human being has the basic right to expect and secure prevention information and public health and home health services that are necessary to promote and sustain their optimal physical, psychological, and spiritual well-being.

Based on this philosophy, PCHD acknowledges its responsibility to promote health and wellness and progressive and effective environmental management programs to prevent disease and its complications.

We pledge to uphold the highest standard of services and care, routinely evaluate services, modify present services, and adopt new programs as community need indicates.

PCHD takes seriously its core public health functions of assessment, assurance and policy development, which in turn protects, promotes and sustains the health of the residents of Pike County, Illinois.

PCHD is proud to be a founding member of the Pike County Community Health Partnership and looks forward to a long, collaborative relationship with the Partnership.