

Douglas Diabetes Working Group

February/1/2001

Attendees: Frances Aparicio, Marilyn Bowen, , Cecila Burda, Ella Caredenas, Yolanda Caruso, Lourdes Fernandez, Jill Guernsey de Zapien, Carol Huddleston, Jesus Kataura, Michael Lebowitz, Joel Meister, Albert Moreno, Christina Ole Giron, Rosa Ortega, Reyna Parra, Diane Popp, Angie Rameirz, Carmen Ramirez, Ginger Ryan, Jenny Stephan, Karl Sproule, Lucia Spikes, Norma Vindiola

Announcement

Jill Guernsey de Zapien informed the group that Marilyn Bowen would no longer be available to facilitate the working group and Angie Ramirez has agreed to take on the coordination and facilitation role for the group. The University of Arizona will continue to provide assistance with minutes and meeting announcements.

Update on School Activities

Yolanda Caruso, reported on the high school diabetes outreach program, which is being done in collaboration with UA Pediatric Department. A training of volunteers with the use of glucometers was held on January 31 st. The training was provided by Maria Rodriguez with Johnson and Johnson. Screening will be done through the English classes and will occur in 6-week intervals. Parent volunteers will be responsible for getting the word out through email, announcements at games and by contacting U.S./Mexico radio stations. Med Start students will also be helping. Promotoras asked to assist in screening efforts. Follow up will be done with any student whose glucose reading is over 140. Lucia Spikes, indicated that the School Board had questioned Dr. Arriaga with concerns over follow-up care for positive screening. She indicated that Dr. Arriaga assured the board of follow up treatment for all students who tested 140 or higher during screening. J. De Zapien acknowledged Y. Caruso for her leadership with regards to her support for diabetes education and screening in the Douglas schools.

There is interest in a diabetes education curriculum. M Bowen indicated that in the next year or so the Cochise Health Dept will be developing a curriculum but right now has other priorities. N. Teufel-Shone offered suggestions of education curriculum already developed such as CATCH and Jump Start. Angie Ramirez indicated that at some schools the bake sales have been stopped.

Update on Rural Health Outreach Grant

Cecilia Burda, Chiricahua Community Health Center gave an overview of activities of the Rural Outreach Grant. From November-January, 259 people have been contacted for outreach activities. Beginning in December there were 3 diabetes education groups in Douglas, 1 group in Elfrida, and 1 group in Pearce. The intervention includes a total of six classes of each group. Upon completion of the classes the promotoras will do a 6week follow-up and then 6-month follow-up with each group member. A meeting is being organized with all of the community physicians to discuss the grant and present data on the effectiveness of these intervention models in other communities. The staff is planning a health fair, have developed information postcards, and will be at the Douglas Mariachi Conference. A Presentation of the project has been given to Lions Club.

Update on Community Activities

Community Health Care of Douglas has submitted a letter of intent to the bankruptcy court and the letter has been accepted. Hopefully, things will be resolved by March 15, 2001. The existing Board of the hospital will stay in place and Community Health Care will be the corporate board.

Diane Popp mentioned that Community Health Care has hired a grant writer to apply for funding for expanding outreach activities in the community. She is also working on a grant with Karen Halverson for diabetes education in the hospital. This would incorporate Angie's classes and the promotoras' work in the community with diabetic patients identified at the hospital. Finally, the hospital is still considering taking the Rural Critical Care Hospital route.

Carmen Ramirez, Community Program Coordinator ADHS, brought up the need for awareness at the school screening for hyperinsulinemia and gave a definition of its presentation in people and the fact it can be reversible. Carmen reported on the American Diabetes Association Diabetes Expo held in Phoenix 1/27-1/28, which is an excellent place for networking and gathering supplies from vendors and also indicated that Lily is no longer publishing its education material in Spanish. Dr. Lebowitz is going to look into getting material printed for the group. Karl Sproule, SEAMC, reported on the telemedicine conferencing. It is difficult to get physicians involved as sessions usually occur during office hours. Suggestions made to reach broader audience and contacting the high school program. He indicated that he does tape the presentations. COPH Grand Rounds are also broadcast.

Norma Vindiola and Rosa Ortega, Companeros, reported on a Diabetes conference sponsored by el Centro Nacional de Capacitacion de Diabetes Today. They distributed copies of the application. They are limited scholarships for this conference/workshop.

Marilyn Bowen, Turning Point Coordinator, announced the Hispanic Family Conference in Willcox and that she was looking for volunteers. Turning Point is funding part of the program.

Jill Guernsey de Zapien reminded the group that the Douglas Sustainability Working Group is focusing in on a feasibility study for a dialysis center in the area. She requested that members of the Sustainability Working Group keep the Diabetes Working Group informed of their progress.

The next meeting was set for:

Monday April 30, 2001
4:00- 5:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church
760 10th Street
Douglas, Arizona