

DOUGLAS DIABETES WORKING GROUP MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 29, 2001 4:00-5:30 PM  
First Presbyterian Church  
760 10th Street Douglas, Arizona

Angie Ramirez opened the meeting with introductions of all who were attending the meeting.

Discussion about the Hospital activities included:

- application for a rural health networking grant
- a new full services lab
- a new director of the emergency room
- equipment purchased for billing
- submission of the application to be designated as a Critical Access Hospital

Discussion about the Food Bank activities included:

- refurbishing of food bank facility almost completed
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- diabetes networking continues through Turning Point
- Turning Point Grant is running out, but group plans to continue.
- ADHS Border Health Office and Southwest Center for Community Health Promotion both offered logistical support to continuing efforts of Turning Point-mailings, copying, etc.

Discussion about the Rural Health Outreach Grant activities included:

- completion of another cycle of six week classes
- scheduling of new class cycles in Elfrida and Douglas
- plans for a provider dinner to bring more information on the program to the providers screening
- activities with city employees and others through health fair and other local events staged diabetes
- management program given in October and attended by nurses and nurse practitioner
- upcoming diabetes education program in Naco organized by Dr. Moss
- evaluation activities include over 25 in depth interviews with patients in program.

Discussion about School activities included:

- school survey still in analysis stage-one medical student working on it
- Dr. Arriaga received results of two patients and has referred them to physicians.
- students at risk will be determined in analysis process
- Mike Lebowitz offered to assist in the analysis process and will talk with others at the University to speed up the process
- parent in Douglas who assisted in the school survey will be recognized by Johnson and Johnson in the calendar for the upcoming year.
- Julie Schourup did a presentation to the school board on Cochise County Report card and there was discussion of school interventions around physical activity and nutrition.
- School district has hired an elementary school PE teacher -1 FfE for all schools for two years rotating in schools.

The School Health Index as a potential intervention in the schools was presented by Mike Lebowitz to the group:

Promoting healthy behaviors among students is an important and fundamental mission of schools. The School Health Index is designed to help schools meet this challenge. It is a self assessment and planning tool which will help schools to:

- identify the strengths and weaknesses of the schools' health promotion policies and programs;
- develop an action plan for improving student health;
- and involve teachers, parents, students, and the community in improving school services.

The School Health Index looks at the entire school environment to determine what influences the physical activity and eating habits of students. It has eight different modules for self assessment including: health education, physical education, health services, nutrition services, counseling, psychological and social services, healthy school environment, health promotion for staff and health family and community involvement.

Jill de Zapien reminded the group that at the previous meeting, she had presented the entire Border Health Strategic Initiative model which is being utilized in Santa Cruz County and Yuma County. Two particular components of the intervention that were of interest to the group included the School Health Index and the Special Action Groups. At this meeting the group was to examine more in depth the School Health Index and at our next meeting the Special Action Group component will be presented to the group.

The group agreed that they were interested in encouraging schools to carry out the self assessment. The Southwest Center for Community Health Promotion agreed to provide technical assistance as needed and will work with Yolanda Caruso and other members to present the school health index to the school board and/or local administrators.

**Other Business:**

Carmen Ranlirez informed the group of the very strong efforts to educate parents about the rights of their diabetic children. The whole area of children with diabetes is growing rapidly and the ADHS diabetes program is working to expand knowledge to providers and patients. Carmen is advocating for a format of public health rounds utilizing the telemedicine system. She would like to see the University get involved in this and help make it happen.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for:

Monday, January 28, 2002  
4:00 to 5:30 PM  
First Presbyterian Church  
760 10th Street  
Douglas, Arizona