

SAG  
STEPS Along the Border Initiative  
February 25, 2004

**Welcome and Introductions**

**I** Welcome and Introductions

JoJean welcomed the group and the new members: Frances Kaplan M.P.H., Steps Along the Border Initiative (SABI) Program Manager, Office of Nutrition and Chronic Disease Prevention Services, Lee Rosenthal and Hong Zeng, Mesa Public Health Association, Nina Coe R.N. for Santa Cruz Valley Unified #35 and Yolanda Soto, Borderland Food Bank.

**II** Review Minutes

JoJean reviewed the agenda then she introduced Lee Rosenthal and Hong Zeng.

**III** Introduce Lee Rosenthal

At the January SAG meeting, members agreed in hiring a facilitator to ease the planning and development process for the action plan due to the state by April 14. Lees' involvement in the Action Plan planning process for Steps seemed like a perfect fit for Lee. Her experience, in working for the Rural Health Office and many coalition groups in Arizona mobilizing these communities around policy issues and making policy change happen, will be of benefit to the planning process. Enthusiastically, Hong and Lee are looking forward to working with SAG and the planning process.

**VI & VIII** Steps Action Plan and Upcoming Patagonia and Rio Rico meetings

The following lists the planning process and future meetings that will take place in the development of the Steps Action Plan:

- Receive a cross-county objective by domain from the State that each county will work towards
- Look for gaps in domain leverages and crossroad domains; obesity, nutrition and asthma.
- March 9, meet with the Ambos Nogales Binational Air Quality Group to become familiar with Air Quality and how it links to the Asthma Component through Steps.
- March 12 meeting with Patagonia community group members to:
  - Share information from Ambos Nogales Binational Air Quality Group meeting March 9.
  - Discuss community issues regarding obesity, asthma & nutrition
  - Discuss and identify community focus regarding obesity, asthma & nutrition
  - Discuss how Patagonia community fits into Steps
  - Identify priorities and partners
  - Discuss two to five year vision

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- March 15 meeting with Rio Rico community group to:
  - Share information from Ambos Nogales Binational Air Quality Group
  - Discuss and share issues regarding obesity, asthma & nutrition
  - Discuss groups focus regarding obesity, asthma & nutrition
  - Where do they see themselves fitting into Steps Identify priorities and partners
  
- April 1, Leadership meeting will be the last meeting. The Leadership Group meeting is to involve co-chairs, two members from Patagonia and Rio Rico and other members identified at community meetings. JoJean invited SAG members to participate as well. The purpose of this meeting is to:
  - Compile information from Patagonia, Asthma Group and Rio Rico Community meetings
  - Review existing materials
  - Review and discuss unique visions from each community
  - Review state county –wide objective
  - Discuss unique personal objectives
  - Develop Steps action plan

**IV** Review SABI Quarterly minutes

JoJean asked all members to look at the information in the folders. Folders contained the following

- Community Needs Assessment
- Resource Inventory
- A rough draft of the program structure (being updated)
- February 5-6 SABI Quarterly minutes
- An Agenda

She asked members to complete community assessments inside the package for diabetes, asthma, and obesity. The community assessment will help in future planning of Steps. Members are to write in community programs within their organization or other organization in the community in which directly or indirectly relate to each of the domains. Please return completed assessments to JoJean by March 4. Then, JoJean introduced Frances Kaplan from the state office. She will be working with all three counties and will be JoJean's contact. In addition, an Education Program Specialist will provide statewide linkage with the schools and county program coordinators as well. Tohono O'odham will join the SABI program in years 2 thru five. In year 2 to 3, Tohono O'odham will complete a community assessment and action plan. Frances said, the purpose of the March 4 meeting is to review completed assessments and decide on the cross-county intervention strategies.

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V. Michele Kimpel Guzman, Representative of the Ambos Nogales Binational Air Quality Group showed a PowerPoint presentation of the groups "Efforts to Improve Air Quality in Ambos Nogales: An Overview". Michele first discussed Particular Matter, which is the primary issue in air quality. Then, she discussed the health impacts resulting from bad air quality. Third, she discussed the impact particular matter has on:

- Children
- Elderly
- People with heart and/or lung conditions
- Diabetes patients
- Athletes and others who exercise
- Smoker

In addition, Michele briefly discussed the following issues in the PowerPoint presentation:

- Primary Emissions sources
- Response: Outreach
- Response: Institutional
- Air Quality Improvement Actions to date
- Action Plans

Moreover, Michele discussed the Ambos Nogales Binational Air Quality Group priorities; the twelve priorities are:

- Stabilize More Roads
- Speed Border Crossings
- Regulate Vehicle Emissions
- Construct Major Corridors
- Reduce Train Route Impacts
- Eliminate Garbage Burning
- Promote Revegetation
- Reduce Wood Burning
- Engineering Solutions to Soil Erosions
- Establish Recycling Programs
- Public Transit Services
- Improve Local Traffic Flow

The final slide, "What Next?" discusses the Ambos Nogales Binational Air Quality Group coordinating/integrating with SAG as part of their efforts to improve Air Quality.

The next SAG meeting will be May 26, 2004 from 11:30 to 2:30 at the Bank One Building.