



C.O.A.S.T.* Connections

The Newsletter of the Greater New Bedford Health & Human Service Coalition (GTHHSC) – www.geocities.com/gnbhsc

Volume I, No.1

June 2006

BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING, HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM: TRAINING MANUAL AND HEALTH MODULES

The Women’s Health Network (WHN) of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health created the *Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Health Education Curriculum: Training Manual and Health Modules* to address the need for accurate, appropriate and current cancer screening information in diverse Massachusetts communities. Built on the “train the trainer” model, this curriculum trains community members and Community Health Workers (CHW) about breast and cervical health. They will in turn educate their clients and communities about these issues.

Recognizing the variety of languages, cultures, literacy and education levels throughout the state, we provide several options for presenting the health units, including power point presentations, flipcharts, and anatomy models to best meet the needs of specific audiences.

The training manual provides detailed step-by-step plans to ensure that breast and cervical health education sessions go smoothly and efficiently. The education units may be presented individually or as a complete

program. Facilitator Notes list which materials and props are needed for each unit as well as directions for implementing the units. Also included are instruction and support for the development of group facilitation skills, overview information on federal and state breast and cervical programming and resources for breast and cervical health education.

The Massachusetts WHN provides free breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic services, and health education to low income, uninsured women at local health centers, hospitals, and community agencies throughout Massachusetts. At some of the locations, women ages 40 to 64 can also receive free blood pressure, cholesterol, and diabetes screening as well as lifestyle interventions to decrease the risk of heart disease and stroke. All enrolled women will receive free case management services including referral to free or low-cost treatment if needed.

Services provided to Massachusetts women through the WHN include mammograms, clinical breast exams, pap tests,

pelvic exams, diagnostic services for breast and cervical cancer, screening* for high blood pressure, cholesterol, and diabetes, and lifestyle interventions to decrease the risk of heart disease and stroke*

(*Only available at certain locations to women ages 40-64)

Eligibility criteria includes Massachusetts residency, income below 250% Federal Poverty Level, having no other insurance that covers these services (including MassHealth), age 40-64. Eligibility for those under age 40 (18-39) include those who have a personal or family history (immediate family such as mother, sister or daughter) of breast or ovarian cancer, have received therapeutic radiation to the chest, or referral by a doctor to rule out cancer. Eligibility for those over age 64 must be ineligible for Medicare and not enrolled in Medicare Part B.

For further information please contact the Women’s Health Network Southeast Regional Outreach Specialist, Paula Doherty, **781-774-6624**, or Paula.Doherty@state.ma.us ♥

The Vision: A healthy environment where everyone experiences community, opportunity, access, safety and trust (COAST)*

The Mission of the GNBHHC is to channel our community into action to achieve a better quality of life for everyone. We

1. Provide information about resources and services in order to promote coordination and to encourage their use by the public
2. Address needs and build on community assets
3. Celebrate and reward community successes

Did You Know That...?



MA Community Health Workers (MACHW) statewide training – “Improving Community Health through Advocacy” will

be held **5/17/06**, 9:30-Noon, at the Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Square. Attendees receive Advocating for Access Advocacy Toolkit. To register, contact Lisa at **508-856-4852**, or email lsiciliano@aol.com.

Prescription Financial Help –

A bus with resources to find help in paying for prescriptions will be parked at the Seven Hills Behavioral Health, 589 South First St, at 10:00 am on **5/17/06**. Persons who bring a list of their medicines will be able to look up sources of funding and assistance in the data base in the Help Express Bus.

Talking It Ovar is a free Ovarian Cancer Conference hosted by the Massachusetts Division of the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition for survivors, women who have been recently diagnosed, caregivers and others concerned about the disease. The goal of the conference is to help you understand the illness and treatment options to make informed health care decisions. It will be held **5/20/06**, 8:30-3:00, at the MA Medical Society Conference Center at Waltham Woods. Pre-registration is required. Please call **781-643-9800** for tickets or more information.

“Who Takes Care of Mom?” - A women’s health and

prevention workshop will be held **5/21/06**, 9:00am-Noon, Fall River Seventh Day Adventist Church, 2695 N. Main St., Fall River. For information, please call **774-930-5935**.

Center for NonProfit Management

2006 BreakFACTS Series is offering *Strategic Planning 101*, **5/23/06**, 8:30-11:00am, at Stonehill College. For information or to register, call **508-565-1856**, or www.stonehill.edu/nonprofit/breakfacts.htm

“Know Your Rights” informs Portuguese speaking elders on aspects of health, **5/25/06**, 9:00-3:00, at Fort Tabors Community Center. Will include Medicare part D. It is open to 200 people, transportation, breakfast and lunch provided. Contact Helena Marques at **508-996-8113**.

ACT Training Program – A one-day training for parents, adults and professionals living and working with children birth to 8 years old will be held **6/1/06**, 8:00am-4:00pm, at the Center for Women’s Health, 300b Faunce Corner Rd., Dartmouth. Cost \$35 or \$50, some scholarships available. Continental breakfast and lunch included, CEUs pending for nurses and social workers. For information or to register, call **508-994-0548**.

Motivational Interviewing & Health Behavior Change: A Two Day Workshop, will be held **6/2/06-6/3/06**, at the Newton Holiday Inn. Cost \$350.00. CEUs. Contact Ann

Marie at **781-775-8865**, or amgrd@hotmail.com

Health & Medical Issues in Autism will be held **6/2/06**, 8:30-4:00, at the Taunton Holiday Inn. Register before 5/26/06. Cost: Parents, Direct Care Workers, Educators, etc., \$40; Nurses, \$70 (Includes CEUs); Social Workers, \$70 (CEUs pending). Please call **978-534-8736**, or **978-424-7961**.

2nd Annual RAPP Heart of Fatherhood Award

– An essay contest is open to children ages 7-18 who would like to acknowledge their fathers’ efforts. Deadline for submissions is **6/3/06**. For information, call Cindy or Tim at **508-994-0548**.

FREE Health Screenings to Men age 18 or older that do not have health insurance or are underinsured The Men’s Health Partnership, a program sponsored by Massachusetts Department of Public Health and administered by Visiting Nurse Association of Cape Cod, Inc, program’s focus is on screening for heart disease, diabetes and prostate cancer. Services include a physical exam, lab work, counseling and education. After their free health consultation, participants receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to Pub Ninety-Nine compliments of the Men’s Health Partnership, at any one of the Pub Ninety-Nine restaurants in New Bedford, Fairhaven, Taunton and Fall River. For information call **1-888-557-9994**.



COALITION/COMMITTEE MINUTES & REPORTS

GNBHSC General Meeting. 5/4/06, 9:00, Coastline Elderly Services.

Discussion Highlights:

Announcements: Events, flyers and other information are always welcome at our information table at meetings.

- **Adult Literacy Group** for Chinese, Portuguese and Spanish speakers is held at 181 Hillman St. Agencies can do presentations, and ACS provides interpreters.
- **Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening, Health Education Curriculum** serves uninsured women through education to them or other providers to bring to the community. The curriculum is being translated into Portuguese and Spanish. The manual also has resources. They hope to offer incentives to educators for training and community presentations. A free service.
- **Men's Health Partnership** - FREE Health Screenings to Men age 18 or older that do not have health insurance or are underinsured The Men's Health Partnership, a program sponsored by Massachusetts Department of Public Health and administered by Visiting Nurse Association of Cape Cod, Inc, program's focus is on screening for heart disease, diabetes and prostate cancer. Services include a physical exam, lab work, counseling and education. After their free health consultation,

participants receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to Pub Ninety-Nine compliments of the Men's Health Partnership, at any one of the Pub Ninety-Nine restaurants in New Bedford, Fairhaven, Taunton and Fall River. For information call **1-888-557-9994**

- **RAPPP Program Parents Night** will feature film and interactive questions and answers about the music kids are listening to. The free program will be held **5/9/06**, 7-9pm, at Fairhaven High School auditorium. To register call **508-994-0548**
- **RAP'N Up Violence**, 8th annual male conference, will be held **5/10/06**, 8:00am-1:30pm, at the Taunton Holiday Inn. For information call **508-994-0548**.
- **HIV Summit** – South Shore and Southeast Regional HIV Service Coordination Collaborative summit will be held **5/10/06**, 9:00am-3:00pm, at the Middleboro Town Hall. Pre-register at **508-583-2250, x251**. Free, breakfast and lunch provided. CEUs available to nurses, social workers and certified drug and alcohol counselors.
- **The Help Is Here Express** – A bus equipped with computer terminals and mobile phones so people can find out if they may be eligible for help paying for their medicines will be

parked at the Seven Hills Behavioral Health, 589 South First St, at 10:00 am on **5/17/06**. Attendees should bring a list of their medicines.

- **Who Takes Care of Mom?** – A women's health and prevention workshop will be held **5/21/06**, 9:00am-Noon, at the Fall River Seventh Day Adventist Church, 2695 North Main St., Fall River. Free health screenings, healthy snacks and prizes. For information, call Tim or Barbara at **774-930-5935**.
- **"Know Your Rights"** is offered to Portuguese speaking elders on aspects of health. Last months presentation was a senior social on second hand smoke. The next will be held **5/25/06**, 9:00-3:00, at Fort Tabors Community Center, and will include Medicare part D. It is open to 200 people, transportation, breakfast and lunch provided. Contact Helena Marques at **508-996-8113**.
- **ACT Training Program** – A one-day training for parents, adults and professionals living and working with children birth to 8 years old will be held **6/1/06**, 8:00am-4:00pm, at the Center for Women's Health, 300b Faunce Corner Rd., Dartmouth. Cost \$35 or \$50, some scholarships available. Continental breakfast and lunch

included, CEUs pending for nurses and social workers. For information or to register, call **508-994-0548**.

- **2nd Annual RAPP Heart of Fatherhood Award** – An essay contest is open to children ages 7-18 who would like to acknowledge their fathers' efforts. Deadline for submissions is **6/3/06**. For information, please call Cindy or Tim at **508-994-0548**.

Puzzles Nightclub Tragedy – The GNBHHC continues to advocate the acceptance of all people.

Subcommittee Reports: Steering Committee

- **Coalition Newsletter** – CHNA#24 (Attleboro / Taunton) newsletters were shared. The Coalition chose the same format with an added calendar of meetings and events. The name will be "C.O.A.S.T. Connections", and contain an agency of the month feature, general meeting minutes, updates, announcements, contact information, and the calendar. The first issue will be June 2006. Agency of the month will feature the new Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Health Education curriculum.
- **Summer Plans** – General meetings will be suspended for July and August, with the possibility of a special working meeting in August,

to be discussed at the next meeting. The June meeting will be on 6/1/06, but the venue has to be changed. Suggestions include the Pequot Building in Dartmouth, Dartmouth Street Stop and Shop community room, libraries, Buttonwood Park, or the UMass Downtown location.

- **Legislative Breakfast 2006** – No information at this time. A member suggested the topic Section 8 housing, education and job opportunities in relationship to a CORI.

GNBHHC Domestic Violence Subcommittee – No Report.

GNBHHC Health Access Subcommittee continues to work on mental health issues and perinatal/postpartum depression. The Committee may use funds to get copies of DPH brochures for distribution.

Coalition Member Tasks:

- Send announcements to mcaprosa@yahoo.com for inclusion in the new C.O.A.S.T. Connections newsletter, especially during the summer months during which there are no meetings.
- Include a quarterly treasurer's report (General Meeting), and monthly treasurer's report
- Submit Domestic Violence Committee and Health Access Committee minutes to Lorraine
- Check the resource directory at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc to check for accuracy. Send

corrections or updates to mcaprosa@hotmail.com

Write and forward to mcaprosa@hotmail.com, a brief description of yourself/your agency and what it does, including website information, for posting on www.geocities.com/gnbhsc, and sharing as received, with the Coalition listserve.

Send events and meeting information to Lorraine Rosa, mcaprosa@hotmail.com, for inclusion in the Calendar section of www.geocities.com/gnbhsc, and for sharing with the Coalition listserve.

Staff Tasks:

Monthly Newsletter publication.

Find a venue for the June meeting.

Update mail list and list serve with new members, remove any who have missed 4 meetings.

Upload minutes and meeting dates on website, send email and hard copies, new web features, and tasks to membership, with a reminder on the weekend before the next Coalition meeting.

Continue to update resource directory at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc

Next Meetings:

Steering Committee: **5/19/06**, 12:30 – 2 pm New Bedford Family Planning

General Meeting, **6/1/06**, 9:00-10:30, The Women's Center, 405 County St., New Bedford.

To submit an article, announcement or other information to the next **C.O.A.S.T. CONNECTIONS**, email mcaprosa@yahoo.com, or call **508-823-4822** by June 30, 2006. You may also access copies of **C.O.A.S.T. CONNECTIONS** at www.geocities.com/gnbhsc.



JUNE 2006

GNBHHC

				<p>1 8:00-4:00 ACT Training Program, Call 508-994-0548</p> <p>9:00-10:00 <u>GNBHHC General Meeting</u>, The Women's Center, 405 County St., New Bedford</p>	<p>2 12:30-2:00 <u>Domestic Violence Subcommittee</u>, South Coastal Counties Legal Services, (formerly SMLAC) 21 South Sixth St., New Bedford</p>	<p>3 Submissions Deadline RAPPP Heart of Fatherhood Award essay</p>
4	<p>5 9:15am <u>Health Access Subcommittee</u>, NB Family Planning, 651 Orchard St.</p>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	<p>13 6:00-7:30pm Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying, Roosevelt Middle School</p>	14	15	<p>16 12:30-2:00 <u>Steering Committee</u>, NB Family Planning, 651 Orchard St.</p>	17
18	19	20	<p>21 Summer Begins!</p> 	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



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