

Community Advisory Group (CAG) **for the** **Omaha Lead Site**

Education Subcommittee
Final Summary Notes from September 30, 2004 Meeting
Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office

The following people were in attendance at the Education Subcommittee meeting:

Name	Affiliation
Kathy Leinenkugel	DCHD
Stacy Meacham	MFG, Inc.
Yolanda Outin (by telephone)	ATSDR
Paula Peters (by telephone)	ATSDR
Dr. Donna Polk-Primm	Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition
Katy Spellerberg	MFG, Inc.
Joyce Stevens	City of Omaha, Housing and Community Development
Vernon Waldren	Douglas/Sarpy County Extension

Dr. Polk-Primm began the meeting by asking Mr. Waldren to discuss the current version (dated September 29, 2004) of the *Community Awareness and Education Program for the Omaha Lead Site Community Advisory Group* (hereafter referred to as the Education Plan). Mr. Waldren first asked what the timeline was for presenting the Education Plan to the CAG. Ms. Meacham stated that the Comprehensive Plan subcommittee is planning to meet October 11, 2004 and intends to have something ready to provide to the CAG at the October 13th CAG meeting. At that time, the CAG will vote on submitting the Comprehensive Plan (which will include the Education Plan) to EPA prior to the end of the Proposed Plan comment period, which is October 15, 2004. Therefore, the Education Plan should be submitted to the Comprehensive Plan subcommittee before October 13th so that it can be rolled into the overall plan that the Comprehensive Plan subcommittee intends to present to the CAG.

Mr. Waldren described additions to the Education Plan since the last revision (September 14, 2004). Mr. Waldren input ideas that would be paid for with the program budget. He also added current programming information. Dr. Polk-Primm suggested that MFG, Inc. format the document and insert information regarding the timeline of tasks and strategies and clarity regarding responsibility.

Ms. Outin asked if the CAG had seen information about EPA Environmental Education Grants. Dr. Polk-Primm said yes, but asked if EPA would award grants to communities that already had money or if this would be limited to communities with no money. Ms. Outin was not certain of the answer and said she would research this question.

Ms. Peters asked Mr. Waldren to explain Strategy 8, Current Programming, of the Education Plan. Mr. Waldren said there is currently no lead education taught in the Omaha Public Schools. He added that such a program would be a long-term education program (throughout elementary, middle school, and high school). Ms. Leinenkugel said the thinking of lead educators is that lead education should include a program for high school students who would be moving into their own homes and starting their own families within the next decade of their lives. Dr. Polk-Primm suggested that a Kindergarten through College lead education plan should be developed. She added that a lead education and environmental awareness program should strive to educate a diverse group of students.

Dr. Polk-Primm asked Ms. Outin and Ms. Peters if the CAG could have access to ATSDR's general health education and lead education materials. Ms. Outin and Ms. Peters said they would compile this information for the CAG. In addition, they asked if this meant that ATSDR would take responsibility for lead education within Omaha Public Schools. Dr. Polk-Primm said no, that ATSDR would serve to "train the trainer" and would provide information to community members, such as to neighborhood and church groups, so that these groups could go into the community and schools and provide lead education.

Dr. Polk-Primm asked Ms. Outin and Ms. Peters if they thought the Education Subcommittee had missed any major points of education. Ms. Outin stressed the importance of holding events within the community, such as a fish fry, where children could get their blood lead levels tested and parents could receive lead education. Dr. Polk-Primm said the CAG would like to do this but so far does not have the funding to do so. Dr. Polk-Primm stated that it is an objective of the plan to include community groups to find out what people want and learn what will work in their neighborhoods.

Dr. Polk-Primm requested that MFG distribute the electronic version of the Education Plan to the meeting attendees and other persons on the Education Subcommittee. Each person is to review the Education Plan and provide final comments to Ms. Spellerberg by Friday October 8, 2004. Dr. Polk-Primm thanked Ms. Outin and Ms. Peters and ended the phone call with them.

Dr. Polk-Primm then suggested that the group decide how MFG should format the Education Plan. It was agreed that a table for each target audience should be developed. The tables should include the goals, objectives, current programming, and timelines of each strategy. Also to be included on the tables is a column identifying potential work groups that could be responsible for implementation of the strategies. MFG will draft the tables and submit to the group during the week of October 4th and the Education Subcommittee would meet again prior to the October 13th CAG meeting to finalize the tables. The tables would then be submitted to the CAG at the October 13th meeting.

Dr. Polk-Primm asked if MFG could also obtain a copy of the Work Plan created for the Leadville Kid's First Program to determine the educational activities included in that plan.

Mr. Waldren then asked for opinions on EPA Environmental Grants. The group agreed it would be good to apply for the grant. The grant money, \$10,000.00, could be used to buy a lead educational display or kiosk. Mr. Waldren and Ms. Leinenkugel agreed to work on the grant application.

Mr. Waldren began discussing ideas for National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. Dr. Polk-Primm agreed to discuss with Rebecca Valdez the possibility of having a lead poisoning prevention discussion on *Community Connection* (on the Spanish radio station). Mr. Waldren

agreed to arrange a lead-free diet demonstration on one of the local television morning shows. MFG agreed to develop a public service announcement (with the assistance of DCHD materials) and Mr. Waldren agreed to find a media source to distribute the announcement. Ms. Leinenkugel agreed to talk to Dr. Pour to see if DCHD (alone or in collaboration with the CAG) could ask Mayor Fahey to have a press conference regarding lead poisoning prevention. The group decided that these ideas would be explored and then a list of ideas would be distributed and voted on at the October 13th CAG meeting.

Ms. Leinenkugel showed pictures of a lead education display developed by EPA. DCHD will have the display for the month of October. Ms. Leinenkugel suggested several ideas for the display, including setting it up at the following locations: the Chicano Awareness Center and a selected site in North Omaha during National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, schools within the Omaha Lead Site (this would include appointing someone to transport and maintain the display), and the October 13th CAG meeting.

The following list of Action Items resulted from the meeting:

- MFG will provide the electronic version of the Education Plan (September 29, 2004 version) to meeting attendees and other members of the Education Subcommittee.
- Meeting attendees and other members of the Education Subcommittee will provide comments on the Education Plan to Ms. Spellerberg by Friday, October 8, 2004.
- MFG will create tables summarizing the key elements of the Education Plan.
- MFG will look into obtaining a copy of the Work Plan created for the Leadville Kid's First Program.
- Ms. Outin will research whether or not an EPA Environmental Education grant would be awarded to a community who already had money.
- Ms. Outin and Ms. Peters will collect ATSDR lead education materials and send them to the Education Subcommittee.
- Mr. Waldren and Ms. Leinenkugel will work on a grant application for an EPA Environmental Education grant.
- Dr. Polk-Primm will contact Rebecca Valdez regarding a discussion on *Community Connection*.
- Mr. Waldren will arrange for a lead-free diet demonstration on a local morning television program.
- MFG will develop a public service announcement and submit it to Mr. Waldren.
- Mr. Waldren will arrange for distribution of the public service announcement to the public by media sources.
- Ms. Leinenkugel will discuss with Dr. Pour the possibility of Mayor Fahey holding a press conference during National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week.

The next education subcommittee meeting will be held on October 11, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. at Mr. Waldren's office located at 8015 W. Center Road.