

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

**Education Subcommittee  
Summary Notes from November 8, 2005 Meeting  
Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office**

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Brenda Council	CAG Facilitator
Patty Falcone	Douglas County Health Department
Nick Flattery	OneWorld Community Health Center
Denise Jordan-Izaguirre	ATSDR
Kathy Leinenkugel	Douglas County Health Department Lead Program
Stacy Meacham	MFG, Inc.
Jennifer Rawley	MFG, Inc.
Joyce Stevens	City of Omaha Planning Department
Che Thompson	Lead Safe Omaha Coalition
Vernon Waldren	Douglas/Sarpy County Extension
Cammy Watkins	Sierra Club
Cheryl Weston	Lead Safe Omaha Coalition
Rachel Wright	Douglas/Sarpy County Extension

The Education Subcommittee began the meeting by discussing the draft contact information sheet. The Subcommittee agreed to present the sheet to the full CAG. The Subcommittee also agreed to update the sheet with phone numbers and addresses of the EPA information offices when the information is made available.

The Subcommittee discussed next year's Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. The Subcommittee agreed to hold Lead Poisoning Prevention Week for the greater Omaha metro area April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Mr. Waldren suggested forming a smaller committee to brainstorm key messages, slogans, timelines, and budgets for Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. Ms. Thompson, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Leinenkugel, and Mr. Waldren agreed to meet as a smaller committee and to report back to the Subcommittee.

Mr. Waldren stated that the Subcommittee intends to report to the full CAG the accomplishments of the Subcommittee to date. Mr. Waldren stated that he would be contacting Subcommittee members to create a report.

Ms. Leinenkugel provided an update on Douglas County Health Department activities. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that she received calls from physicians requesting information as a result of the Subcommittee's booth at the Minority Health Conference. Ms. Leinenkugel reported that 38 children were screened at the health fair held at Metro South. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that she has also received a lot of feedback from her television interview on Channel six. Ms. Wright stated that she would obtain a copy of the television interview.

Ms. Falcone stated that she has yet to hear anything regarding the health worker grant from EPA.

Ms. Wright provided an update on Douglas/Sarpy County Extension activities. Ms. Wright reported that she is receiving positive feedback on the growth charts via returned survey cards. Ms. Wright stated that she has not received many of the postcards, but that of those received, the response is generally positive, noting positive responses from the Spanish-speaking community.

Ms. Thompson provided an update on Lead Safe Omaha Coalition (LSOC) activities. Ms. Thompson stated that LSOC provided education to over 300 children during the school year to date.

Mr. Flattery provided an update on OneWorld Health Centers activities. Mr. Flattery stated that OneWorld might have a new pediatric provider in the future. Mr. Flattery stated that approximately 85% of OneWorld's patients are Hispanic.

Ms. Weston asked what is being done target the Sudanese community. Ms. Leinenkugel stated that Creighton Medical Center and Charles Drew Health Center provide care for the Sudanese community. She also noted that many refugee families are entering the community with elevated blood lead levels and are then being placed in housing with lead hazards. She noted that the Red Cross has a refugee task force that includes Sudanese outreach workers.

Ms. Watkins provided an update on Sierra Club activities. She noted that walks would be held in the spring and that a survey being used by Mary Hill of Sisters Together would be shared between North and South Omaha. Ms. Watkins also noted that Mr. Werner Fornos, President of the Population Institute, would be in Omaha speaking on "Gaining People, Losing Ground," on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at the First Unitarian Church.

Ms. Stevens gave an update on City activities. She noted that the City would be working with EPA to do cleaning and painting at properties beginning in the first quarter of next year.

Ms. Council mentioned that the City was working to define the word "study" as it relates to the \$500,000 congressional appropriation given to the City to study lead hazards. She stated that it was the City's goal to use the funds to complete a remediation and renovation project and then use the project as a study model for future renovations and hazard elimination. Ms. Jordan-Izaguirre noted that ATSDR has been involved with two such studies completed at mining sites. She noted that Senator Nelson had requested copies of the studies when preparing the appropriation request.

Ms. Jordan-Izaguirre gave an update on ATSDR activities. She responded to questions regarding the recent release of ATSDR's Arsenic Health Consultation. She noted that letters had been mailed to homeowners with arsenic levels greater than 70 parts per million, which is the level ATSDR has identified as the level of concern.

Ms. Weston noted that Good Morning America had recently aired a story on lead in lunch boxes and the protocols one company is adopting to ensure their products do not contain unsafe levels of lead.

The next Education Subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. at the Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office located at 8015 W. Center Road.