



# MOTHER & CHILD HEALTH COALITION

A bistate catalyst for improving maternal, child and family health in the greater Kansas City community

S U M M E R 2 0 1 1 N E W S L E T T E R

## SAVE THE DATE:

Friday, July 22, 2011 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

### MCHC QUARTERLY MEETING

#### *Perinatal Health: How it Affects Mother and Baby*

Curry Auditorium, Brookside Campus,  
Research Medical Center

6675 Holmes, Kansas City MO 64131

**Presenters:** Linda May - Exercise  
Susan Carlson and Prabhu Parimi - Nutrition  
Melissa Newkirk - Infant Stimulation

Sponsored by MCHC and  
Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics.

For information, contact Paul Cesare at  
(816) 283-6242 ext. 239 or pcesare@mchc.net

Number of Credit Hours: 2

Fee for Credit Hours: None for MCHC members;  
\$25 for non-members.

PLEASE REGISTER at [www.mchc.net](http://www.mchc.net)

## KANSAS CITY HEALTHY START UPDATE



Kansas City Healthy Start (KCHS) is pleased to announce that we recently received the Notice of Grant Award for the Continuation Application submitted January 2011.

The full amount of \$1.5 million as requested was received. In a time of economic downturn, this funding is critical to continue offering services in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

As a grantee of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services Health Bureau's Health Resources Services Administration, and a program of Mother & Child Health Coalition (MCHC), KCHS is designed to decrease the infant mortality rate, eliminate healthcare disparities, and improve the health of pregnant women, infants and families. KCHS incorporates a home-visiting model within the program's provision of services which offers outreach, case management, health education, depression screening and interconception care. KCHS also offers resource services for fathers/father figures.

As a bi-state initiative, KCHS partners with several community agencies. In Jackson County there are two KCHS sites: Children's Mercy (English-speaking and Spanish-speaking teams), and Truman Medical Center-Hospital Hill (multi-lingual in English, Arabic and Somali). In Wyandotte County there is one KCHS site: Project EAGLE. KCHS also partners with Truman Behavioral Health to provide depression screening and mental health resources, and collaborates with numerous organizations, agencies and volunteers to ensure success of the program's goals and objectives.

For more information about Kansas City Healthy Start, contact Jean Craig, PhD, project director at [jcraig@mchc.net](mailto:jcraig@mchc.net).

## Human Resource Forum, August 5

Are you interested in promoting a more profitable workplace environment where the business saves money and it becomes a healthier workplace for employees too? If so, then you should attend the MCHC Human Resource Forum on Friday, Aug. 5th, 9a.m. to noon, at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center. The Affordable Care Act has transformed how human resource offices do business on at least two levels-- it requires that all businesses become informed on health insurance options for their employees and it asks that employers provide space for their lactating employees to express their milk. We will have presenters from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Dept. of Labor, and the Missouri Health Advocacy Alliance. There will also be an individual providing her experiences both as a mother wanting to feed her child and as a professional wanting to maintain her career. To learn more, contact [pcesare@mchc.net](mailto:pcesare@mchc.net). On-line registration will be available soon.

## SAVE THE DATE:

Friday, September 9, 2011 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

### *Working with Fathers: Effectively Engaging Fathers in Your Services*

Curry Auditorium, Research Brookside

6675 Holmes, Kansas City, Missouri 64131

Sponsored by MCHC Click link below to register:

<https://mchc.ejoinme.org/MyPages/Sept2011KCHSCareCoordinationTraining/tabid/299634/Default.aspx>

**Presenter:** Bravehearts Program for Dads

Target audience: Early childhood educators from Missouri and Kansas.

**We're on Twitter!** Follow us at [www.twitter.com/mchc\\_dot\\_net](http://www.twitter.com/mchc_dot_net) and help to spread the good word about our news and activities.



Every child deserves a healthy start; it is the best gift a community gives its children and itself. Mother & Child Health Coalition works together with community partners and families to promote wellness and advocate excellence in health care.

MCHC IS A UNITED WAY AGENCY



6400 Prospect Ave., Suite 216, KCMO 64132 (816) 283-6242 phone (816) 283-0307 FAX [www.mchc.net](http://www.mchc.net)

O U R N E W A N D R E N E W I N G M E M B E R S

Your valuable financial and in-kind support helps us continue our many programs and activities. Our heart-felt thanks go out to the following new and renewing members and partners for the period of April, May and June, 2011. PLEASE NOTE: If we don't yet have your email address, please send us a message at [mstevenson@mchc.net](mailto:mstevenson@mchc.net) so that we can stay in touch. Thanks!

**SUSTAINER LEVEL**

**Truman Medical Center:**

Annette Brewer, Charlene Burnett, Danna Calvin-Weeks, Hope Davis, Ta'Hera Henderson, Judy Hendrix, Marie Iverson, Fran Jaeger, Nina King, Carie Lawrence, Sirpa Lawson, Kathy Luehrman, Loretta Macek, Marilyn Obee, Beth Severt, Michal Thomas.

**BENEFACTOR LEVEL**

**\* BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas City:**

Melinda Armstead, Shelley Bowen, Donna Bundy, Rennae Ellis, Teresa Gerard, Tee-ka Johnson, Gwen Nickles, Laura Rupp.

**\* North Kansas City Hospital:**

Bert Barnett, Patti Bradley, Renee Fea, Kelly Josephine, Deanna Kelley, Michele Malone, Dawn McBee, Janel Zion.

**\* Kansas Univ. of Medicine & Biosciences:**

Annette Campbell, Nancy Farrand, Richard

Magie, Linda May, Aaron Mayer, Susan Roberts, Richard Suminski, Jan Talley.

**\* Sunflower Neonatology Associates, LLC :**

Lisa Castro, Dena Hubbard, Robert Holcomb, Thomas Lancaster, Katherine Schooley, Tiffany Simpson, Christopher Stapley, Kathleen Weatherstone.

**DONOR LEVEL**

**\* Kansas City Free Health Clinic:**

Tracey Allen-Ehrhart, Deborah White.

**\* Partnership for Children:**

Jeremy LaFaver, Charron Townsend.

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

Edna Perez-Koury, Patricia Burns, Kay Connelly, Christina Miller, Liz Sutherlin, Teresa Marshall, Deborah Largo-Mesley, Margot Smith, Caryl Lombard, Katherine Yunghans, Pam Western, Morgan Berger, Maggi Pivovar, Adrienne Platt.



You may join, or renew your membership in the Coalition during the Quarterly meetings or at any time on our secure Website: <http://www.mchc.net/join.htm>. Individual membership is still only \$25/year.

**MCHC STAFF DIRECTORY**

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**Annual Healthy Motherhood Event**

On April 22, Mother & Child Health Coalition (MCHC) was very pleased to host "Healthy Motherhood: A Community Approach to Healthy Babies" where Ms. Tonya Lewis Lee shared her inspiring documentary, "Crisis in the Crib" and discussion centered on the community approach to having healthier babies and better outcomes for all our families. Two events were held: one at the Jack Reardon Convention Center, where Ms. Lee's presentation was part of the MCHC annual business meeting. A second meeting, targeting nursing and allied health students, was held in the afternoon at Kansas City Kansas Community College. Over 300 people attended the day's events.

Ms. Lee's tour was part of a statewide education campaign sponsored by the Blue Ribbon Panel on Infant Mortality of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS) Office of Minority Health. She is national spokesperson for the USDHHS campaign, "A Healthy Baby Begins with

You," as well as a national best-selling author, award-winning TV producer, and wife of filmmaker Spike Lee.

According to the most recent annual summary published by the National Center for Vital Statistics, (2007) Kansas ranked worst among other states for black infant mortality. As the gap between black and white infant deaths continues to expand, it is time to address this paradox with new approaches. During April, National Minority Health Awareness Month, Ms. Lee toured three cities in Kansas (Wichita, Topeka and Kansas City) to raise awareness of what can be done to improve the statistics on birth outcomes for our families, particularly in the African American community.

MCHC plans to continue to address this serious issue in the months to come, by partnering with several other organizations in starting a Preconception Peer Educators (PPE) program as described during the sessions. To learn more about the PPE program, visit <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov> and watch for news about future activities in our community.



## MAIC UPDATE

“Vaccines -- Protecting Our Future” was the message of Mid America Immunization Coalition’s 10<sup>th</sup> biennial Immunization Symposium, held on June 17 at the Ritz Charles Conference Center in Overland Park, Kansas.

Evaluations from the 2009 Symposium showed that personal tragic stories about illnesses that could have been prevented by a vaccine make the immunization efforts of the attendees all the more important to them. Introduced as the reason they were there, the opening speaker this year, Maggi Pivovar, a local Meningitis survivor who had to have both legs amputated below the knee in order to save her life (see Fall 2010 MCHC Newsletter, and photo, right), shared in words and photos the harrowing story of the disease, the residual effects it has had on her and on her family, and what the audience needs to remember when they hear stories like hers.

National and local immunization leaders also spoke to the 204 pediatricians, family physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses and health department personnel who attended from Missouri and Kansas. Speakers included William Atkinson MD, MPH, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention discussing *Current Issues in Vaccines for Children and Teens* and *Not Just For Kids: What’s New about Adult Vaccines*. Sharon Humiston, MD, MPH, pediatrician and health services researcher at Children’s



Maggi Pivovar, meningitis survivor, spoke at the June 26 “Maggi’s Walk Against Meningitis.”

Mercy Hospitals and Clinics (CMH) provided information that addressed *Practical Vaccine Issues in an Impractical World*. Afternoon sessions were lead off by Christopher Harrison, MD, a CMH infectious disease physician who discussed *Influenza– Can You Afford To Get It?* Thad Wilson, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate dean at the University of Missouri School of Nursing and former MAIC co-chair, provided the attendees with this parting thought: *What You Say Matters: Becoming A Vaccine Advocate*.

Many thanks to these terrific speakers as well as to Symposium Planning Committee members Angie Knackstedt (who guided the efforts for the CMH’s Continuing Education credits), Cindy Olson-Burgess (CMH), Danielle Thornton (WYCO Public Health Department), Shawna Jackson, Jackson County Health Department, and Rhonda Luther and Rebecca White of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. With another success behind us, we are already looking forward to planning the 2013 Symposium.

## Measles Outbreak Reported

The United States is experiencing the highest reported cases of measles since 1996. This year, by June 17, 156 confirmed cases were reported to CDC. Most (136) were associated with importations from measles-endemic countries or countries where large outbreaks are occurring. The imported cases involved unvaccinated U.S. residents who recently traveled abroad, unvaccinated visitors to the United States, and people linked to these imported cases.

Measles is a highly contagious, acute viral illness that is transmitted by contact with an infected person through coughing and sneezing. After an infected person leaves a location, the virus remains contagious for up to 2 hours on surfaces and in the air. Measles can cause severe health complications, including pneumonia, encephalitis, and death.

To date, 12 outbreaks (3 or more linked cases) have occurred accounting for 47% of the cases. Of the total cases/patients, 85% were unvaccinated or had undocumented vaccination status. Of the 139 cases/patients who were U.S. residents, 62% were unvaccinated, 22% had undocumented vaccination status, 8% had received 1 dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, 8% had received 2 doses, and 1% had received 3 (documented) doses.

Measles was declared eliminated in the United States in 2000 due to our high 2-dose measles vaccine coverage, but it is still endemic for large outbreaks in Europe, Africa and Asia (including India). The increase in measles cases here underscores the ongoing risk of importations and the need for high measles vaccine coverage. It also requires prompt and appropriate public health responses to measles cases and outbreaks.

### FREE Kansas City Healthy Start One-Day Childbirth Class!

Open to all KC Families. Held every 3rd Tuesday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Lunch and diapers provided, **FREE!**

Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral, Downtown KCMO

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

Call (816) 283-6242 ext. 252 or email [info@mchc.net](mailto:info@mchc.net)

## SAFE KIDS METRO KC UPDATE

The summer months are a time when families enjoy doing a variety of activities outdoors; however, it’s also when barbecue grills and fireworks cause devastating residential fires and serious injuries to children. According to the United States Fire Administration, each year almost 5,000 Americans are injured by charcoal/wood-burning and propane grill fires. Fireworks send 3,000 children under the age of 15 to emergency rooms each year in the U.S. And sparklers, which are typically viewed by parents as relatively harmless fireworks for children, cause serious burn injuries, accounting for one-third of the injuries to children under five. In 2010, 79 Kansas children ages 0-14 were injured by fireworks, according to the Kansas State Fire Marshal’s Office. Unfortunately, many fireworks injuries are not even reported.





A W O R D F R O M T H E C H A I R



Annette Campbell,  
BSN, RN  
Director,  
Score 1 for Health

2011-2012 MCHC  
Chairperson

*"It's a great day to be  
an MCHC  
member!"*

Dear Friends,

As I begin my term as chair of MCHC's board, I first wish to thank Arif Ahmed for his leadership throughout this past year. I have big shoes to fill. I am simultaneously humbled and inspired by the amazing strength found in the talented staff at MCHC and the professional support found through the full board of directors and advisory board. I have been a member of the Coalition for several years and began serving on the board four years ago. The opportunity to get to know MCHC better and serve on its committees has been a great privilege. MCHC is a multifaceted organization, yet its vision, mission and values are clear and direct. The Coalition's longevity and fiscally sound status are very much welcomed in today's frequently changing, sometimes fickle health services and social welfare environments.

As I review the list of programs being administered, developed and/or supported by the Coalition, I cannot help but feel proud that each and all together represent a major metropolitan force toward achieving steady progress in meeting the goals set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' *Healthy People 2020*. By following its mission that "every child deserves a healthy start" with culturally and socially competent programming, MCHC is a major contributor to increasing equity in health care access, removing disparities, improving the

social determinants of health, ultimately improving overall health and quality of life for our city's children and their parents.

Pride aside, there is still much to be done, much to be improved upon, and much that can be developed in order to advance the wellness of families. The glass is always 'half full' as the Coalition addresses fundraising and future definition of membership enrollment - these challenges represent opportunities for innovation and creativity. The strategic plan for MCHC is being re-developed to include these opportunities and will help guide Susan, the staff, the board, and ultimately MCHC's members as we each work toward ensuring that the gift of health and wellness is afforded each and every child in Kansas City. It's a great day to be an MCHC member!

Best Regards,  
Annette Campbell

MCHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Annette Campbell – Chair
- Arif Ahmed– Past Chair
- Michelle Malone, Chair Elect
- Angie Knackstedt – Secretary
- Kay Connelly – Treasurer
- Susan McLoughlin, Ex-officio
- Josie Adams
- Tracey Allen-Ehrhart
- Mary Bianchi
- Kate Cole
- Catherine Gordon
- Sharon Harris-Baugh
- Cheryl Herzog-Arneill
- Kim Kimminau
- Anna Lambertson
- Bryan Love
- William Pankey
- Corrina Roberts
- Wilaiporn Rojjanasirrat
- Linda Steinke
- Charron Townsend

MEET YOUR NEW CHAIR:

Annette Campbell, BSN, RN Director, Score 1 for Health

Annette Campbell graduated from Avila University in 1985 with a BSN in nursing. After working several years in acute care nursing at Research Medical Center, she took the opportunity in 1992 to work as a liaison nurse for rural practices as patients were transferred to RMC for critical care - ensuring that patients, their families and the doctors who care for them at home were well-connected while in a major tertiary care center.

In 1995 the opportunity to work in home health as a case manager provided pivotal exposure to the needs of clients outside of acute care.

In 1997, after volunteering as a school nurse, Annette accepted a school nurse

position within the Blue Valley School District at Leawood Middle School.

Annette began working in Score 1 for Health in 1998. She was hired to help the program expand into its second school district (Hickman Mills) and expand its number of schools from 9 to 11. In 2006, she accepted the position of director for this organization which now serves nearly 16,000 children in 54 elementary schools across the metropolitan area.

Promoting health and wellness for children is her passion. Annette is married to Steve Campbell, an elementary school administrator, and they have 2 daughters: Caroline, 20, is a student at Marquette University and Anna, 11, is going into 6<sup>th</sup> grade this fall. She is a life-long Kansas City resident. Annette and her family enjoy doing many activities together, such as riding bikes, cooking, traveling and catching local theater productions.

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