




MOTHER & CHILD HEALTH COALITION

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

SPRING 2015 NEWSLETTER


Register now at www.mchc.net



2015 Child Safety Initiative Conference
Injury and Violence Prevention through Leadership, Education and Advocacy

Friday, April 17, 2015
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Kraftman Foundation Conference Center
 4811 Rockhill Road
 Kansas City, MO




COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars now for our upcoming events in 2015.

Friday, July 24 - MCHC Quarterly Meeting
 Friday, Oct. 23 - MCHC Quarterly Meeting
 Friday, Nov. 13- MAIC Immunization Symposium

The Symposium is in **NOVEMBER** this year!
 See page 4.

For details or to register, and for other scheduled meetings, go to www.mchc.net



Please join us as we honor the past, celebrate our present & look to the future.

Friday, April 24, 2015
 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Kansas City Health Department
 2400 Troost Ave., Biery Auditorium
 Kansas City MO 64108

Register online www.mchc.net

As a program of Mother & Child Health Coalition, the Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative (KCHSI) is sporting a new and improved logo which includes a *masculine* element. While this project has historically provided services almost exclusively to pregnant women, and women with children under the age of two years, revised strategies include providing a systemized format for making referrals and providing resource information to the dads and male significant others of the families enrolled in the program. KCHSI coordinates services with other agencies and organizations in the community that are committed to assisting men

New logo for the new Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative



with improving their health, becoming employable and establishing a life course of goals and activities that will improve the overall well-being of the entire family.

Services for the KCHSI program will be provided in 11 ZIP code areas in Kansas City, MO and 6 ZIP code areas in Kansas City, KS by Community Health Workers located at the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center and Swope Health Services.

To make a referral to KCHSI, please call Dr. Jean Craig at 816-283-6242 Ext 225 or visit the new website at www.mchc.net/programs/kansas-city-healthy-start/.

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

PLEASE NOTE: As of May 1, our ADDRESS (NOT our location!) will be changing to 2340 East Meyer Blvd., Building 1, Suite 216. We are NOT moving, this is only a change in the address. Please make this change in your records. The Post Office will continue to deliver mail addressed to our Prospect address.

M E M B E R S H I P S

Your valuable financial and in-kind support helps us continue our many programs and activities. Our heart-felt thanks to the following individual members and organizational partners joining or renewing their membership during the period of JAN - FEB - MARCH 2015. Please let us know of any errors or omissions.

THANK YOU to our renewing members and **WELCOME** to our NEW Individual Members: Christy Alexander, Jeanette Boucher, Kara Bye, Megan Cooper, Katie Davis, Ellen Dorshow-Gordon, Sharon Engelman, Maureen Gregg, Vicki Headley, Wendy Johnson, Scott Kedrowski, Irene Manning, William Pankey, Dena Pepple, Theresa Rodgers Campbell, Wilaiporn Rojjanasrirat, Lori Schierts, Kristin Schlenk, Ashley Stumpfenhaus, Shelia Taylor, Tricia Walania, Lucinda Whitney, Katherine Yungans.

Organizational Memberships

Benefactor Level (\$1,000):

Unified Govt/Wyandotte County Public Health Department: Jennifer Allen, Ashlee Folsom, Terrie Garrison, Nancy Sanchez (4 more to be named.)

Patron Level (\$500):

CMH Pediatric Care Network: Melody Derks, Karen Mayes, Angie Pollock, Ma'ata Touslee.

Donor Level (\$250):

SIDS Resources: Cheryl Herzog Arneill, Pete Potts.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

"...The world may be different because you were important in the life of a child."



Phyllis Larimore RN, MPH, PhD(c)
Injury Prevention Program Coordinator, Children's Mercy Hospital

how YOU can support these programs that serve our families here in the greater KC community.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Let's see how "blue" we can be! Show your support in preventing child abuse & neglect: Friday, April 10 is Wear Blue Day. Did you know that MCHC and our partners host an annual childhood injury prevention conference? Yes, we do: the 2015 Child Safety Initiative Conference at Kauffman Foundation Conference Center on April 17th "Injury & Violence Prevention through Leadership, Education & Advocacy." Our intent is for you to leave with an understanding of how children become injured, and our resources in the community to reduce the risk. Our speakers will: -Explain different approaches to support adolescents to prevent adolescent relationship abuse. -Describe a collaborative to reduce child abuse and neglect in the first 1,000 days of life.- Identify violence issues facing children and families in the Kansas City area. - Describe efforts in Kansas and Missouri to preserve life and property by reducing youth firesetting behaviors. - Explain social norming efforts to reduce distracted driving. - Develop strategies

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- Gina Hopkins**, Financial Manager
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- Regina Weir**, Immunization and Childhood Injury Prevention Coordinator
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to address current high-risk poisoning in children.

Our very special annual meeting is being held April 24th - DON'T MISS IT! It has been my honor to serve this year as your Chair and I look forward to continuing to support you and our efforts to see that every child gets a healthy and SAFE start!

**MCHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2014 - 2015**

- Phyllis Larimore, Chair
- Terrie Garrison, Past Chair
- Rosemary Graves, Chair Elect
- Charlene Burnett, Secretary
- Linda Steinke, Treasurer
- Susan McLoughlin, Ex-officio
- Josie Adams
- Audrey Dunkel
- Ashlee Folsom
- R. Alan Grimes
- Victoria Hanley
- Artise Hervey
- Ximena Ilabaca-Somoza
- Miguel Jaramillo
- Scott Kedrowski
- Anna Lambertson
- Clara Reyes
- Theresa Rodgers Campbell
- Wilaiporn Rojjanasrirat
- Stephanie Seger
- Kara Shelman



**APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
Preventing Child Abuse through Safe Haven for Newborns**

In 2014, there were 24,909 reports of child abuse and neglect in the KC metro area. There were at least two cases in or near Kansas City of infants abandoned and left to die, when they could have been left at a Safe Haven location. According to the Missouri Department of Health, 40 infants have been safely and legally relinquished under the Missouri Safe Haven law, since it took effect in 2002. In Kansas, 8 babies have been relinquished since 2008. That is why the Safe Haven for Newborns Coalition of Greater Kansas City is participating in April, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and spreading the message "No One Ever Has to Abandon a Newborn" by posting signs inside 65 Kansas City ATA buses.

MCHC is the recipient of an unsolicited grant from the FJC Foundation, which provided \$5,000 for the production of a public service announcement on Safe Haven. The PSA was professionally produced by KCPT and is being shown throughout the month of April. In addition, an audio version can be heard on The Bridge radio station, KC Local 909 FM.

All 50 states have some form of the Safe Haven law, which allows desperate parents to safely leave their newborn in the arms of someone on duty at an officially designated Safe Haven location. Missouri and Kansas Safe Haven laws require that the child must be 45 days old or less, and show no signs of abuse. Safe Haven locations in Missouri are hospitals, fire, police and ambulance stations, maternity homes and pregnancy resource centers; in Kansas, Safe Havens include hospitals, fire and police stations and city and county health departments. MCHC and the Safe Haven Coalition have distributed about 250 signs and many posters and other materials to the public, in order to share the message of saving babies from harm.

Mother & Child Health Coalition is proud to share resources and information about this important child abuse prevention strategy. Please visit www.mchc.net to learn more about Safe Haven for Newborns.

MCHC Hosts Visitors From Japan

Mother & Child Health Coalition (MCHC) was invited by GlobalTies KC (formerly Kansas City International Visitors Council) to host a meeting at the MCHC office with Sayaka Osakabe [Sai-yah-kah Ô-sah-kah-bey], one of the recipients of the 2015 Secretary of State's Award for International Women of Courage. This prestigious award recognizes women around the globe who have shown exceptional courage and leadership in advocating for human rights and empowerment, often at great personal risk. Through this annual award, the United States honors the endeavors of extraordinary women worldwide who have played transformative roles in their societies.

Ms. Osakabe, who is from Japan, is an advocate for victims of maternity discrimination, working to draw attention to illegal discrimination against pregnant workers. Her work has brought significant attention and national dialogue on the role of women in the workplace, where some women suffer harassment on the job when they become pregnant and are forced to quit working. Her focus is to overcome significant social/cultural obstacles facing women in the workplace. Ms. Osakabe has ignited a national debate over how to reform

the Japanese workplace to accommodate women and families. Like many Japanese women, she was harassed and pressured to resign from her job after becoming pregnant. After suffering two stress-related miscarriages, she pursued legal recourse for "maternity harassment—Matahara" in her own case, and founded "Matahara Net" to help other women. One of those women won the landmark Japan Supreme Court case in October 2014 ruling against pregnancy discrimination.

Ms. Osakabe's courage to speak out has spurred government and civil society action, including the Government of Japan official notice on January 23, 2015 that dismissals and demotions of pregnant women are presumed illegal. Ms. Osakabe made "matahara" a 2014 buzzword in Japan, supporting women's full participation in the workplace to grow Japan's economy. Susan McLoughlin, Executive Director and other MCHC staff shared information about the various activities of the Coalition that promote healthier mothers and children. Mrs. Osakabe's husband participated in the meeting as he has been travelling with her in the US as a part of her message of men supporting their wives.



Above: Sayaka Osakabe, recipient of the 2015 Secretary of State's Award for International Women of Courage.

Below: Mrs. Osakabe and her husband visited with staff at MCHC in March. **L-R:** Paul Cesare, Jean Craig, Susan McLoughlin, Mrs. and Mr. Osakabe.



Have you seen our new website??

Take a look at www.mchc.net and let us know what you think!



What can parents do to support immunization?

In the wake of outbreaks of diseases like measles, many parents are wondering what they can do to protect their families and their communities from diseases that vaccines can prevent. Here are three steps that any parent can take:

Make sure your whole family is up to date on immunizations. To best protect our communities, all of us need to be immunized. For example, when moms and dads are immunized against whooping cough, babies are protected because they are less likely to catch the disease from them. To learn more about what immunizations might be right for you, go to the Missouri Department of Health website. Ask your family's healthcare providers about getting up to date!

Be a positive voice for immunizations. Speak up for vaccines! Tell other parents in a positive way why you immunize on time and why you think it is important to your community. Posting stories and information about immunization and your own experiences getting vaccinated on social media can also be a great way to show your support for immunization.

Advocate. Find the immunization rate for your child's school on SchoolDigger. Consider writing a letter to the editor about news items relating to immunization. If there is a policy change being considered in your school or state that you care about, let your representative know. Connecting with programs specifically for parents, like Voices for Vaccines, a national organization, can be a great way to get more involved.

Legislation filed in the 2015 Missouri General Assembly relating to immunizations:

HB 846 LaFaver, Jeremy - Requires parental notification if a non-immunized child is in attendance at a child's school;

HB 976 Franklin, Diane - Specifies that any public, private, or parochial day care center, preschool, or nursery school must notify a parent, upon request, of whether there are any children attending who are not immunized;

HB 670 Smith, Clem - Changes the laws regarding school course materials and instruction relating to human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases;

SB 329 - This act requires all employees of public and private institutions, facilities, or agencies that are used, operated, or designed to provide health services, medical treatment, or nursing, rehabilitative, or preventative care and that are inspected by the Department of Health and Senior Services to receive an influenza vaccination every year, three months prior to the flu season.

#VaccinesWork!

2015 < SAVE THE DATE

IMMUNIZATION SYMPOSIUM

DATE:
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER, 13, 2015

TIME:
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LOCATION:
OVERLAND PARK MARRIOTT
10800 METCALF AVENUE
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66210

NOTE: The Symposium is in NOVEMBER this year instead of June!



A PROGRAM OF
MOTHER & CHILD HEALTH COALITION



FEATURED SPEAKERS



Paul Roth, MD
Chief, Section of Infectious Diseases
and Director, Special Education
Center, Children's Hospital of
Philadelphia



William Stinson, MD, MPH
Assistant Director of Immunization
Education, Immunization Action
Coalition, San Francisco, California