

GRANTEE Update

August 24, 2009

The Update is a bi-weekly Web newsletter published by the Iowa Department of Public Health's Bureau of Family Health. It is posted the second and fourth week of every month, and provides useful job resource information for departmental health care professionals, information on training opportunities, intradepartmental reports and meetings, and additional information pertinent to health care professionals.

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Lee County Health Department Honored for Excellence in Public Health

Lee County Health Department is One of 23 Nationwide to Receive "Model Practice Award" in 2009



The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) honored Lee County Health Department (LCHD) at their

2009 annual conference for implementing a program that demonstrates exemplary and replicable qualities in response to a local public health need. Lee County Health Department's *Accreditation Preparation Demonstration Site Project* is one of 23 local public health programs selected from across the nation to receive NACCHO's Model Practice Award.

"I was very proud to accept the NACCHO's Model Practice Award at the annual conference on behalf of the LCHD. The award is evidence of our agency's commitment to develop responsive and innovative public health programs that improve the health of local citizens," said Michele Ross, Community Health Director at LCHD.

A committee of peers selected the *Lee County Health Department's Accreditation Preparation Demonstration Site Project* from a group of 116 local health department applications. The Model Practice Awards program honors initiatives - including programs, resources and tools - that demonstrate how local health departments and their community partners can effectively collaborate to address local public health concerns. Lee County Health Department's *Accreditation Preparation Demonstration Site Project* will become part of an online, searchable database of successful public health practices in areas ranging from immunization

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Lee County Health Department Honored for Excellence in Public Health

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and maternal and child health to infectious diseases and emergency preparedness. The database will allow NACCHO to share information about what is working across the country in local public health.

LCHD's *Accreditation Preparation Demonstration Site Project* joins a special group of health departments that exemplify the forward thinking, proactive attitude of our nation's public health system. NACCHO congratulates Lee County Health Department on this important recognition. For more information about the NACCHO Model Practice Awards, go to www.naccho.org.

On the Issues Speaker Series Hosted by the Iowa Initiative

The Iowa Initiative aims to reduce the high rate of unintended pregnancies among Iowa women ages 18-30 through networking, research and public outreach. The Iowa Initiative is part of a network of women's health organizations around the state working together to increase access to birth control options and family planning information. The Iowa Initiative is a privately-funded program headed by Iowa's former First Lady Christie Vilsack. For more information, please contact Deb Madison-Levi at (515) 282-5375 or (515) 371-5841.



As part of Iowa Initiative's mission to reduce unintended pregnancies in Iowa, the initiative invites nationally-known health care leaders to Iowa to provide an informed perspective on the issues at stake. This also gives Iowa's family planning professionals opportunities to experience, learn from and be inspired by national experts as well as lessons they can learn from each other.

The Iowa Initiative to Reduce Unintended Pregnancies, in partnership with Des Moines University Global Health and the Iowa Department of Public Health, welcomed Melody Barnes, Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, to Des Moines on July 22, 2009.

If you were unable to see Director Barnes speak, you will have another chance as Mediacom will be rebroadcasting her speech on Channel 22 at various times until mid-September, 2009. The schedule for these airings can be found at www.connections22.com.

Following Director Barnes presentation, Dr. Mary Mincer Hansen and Jenell Stewart from Des Moines University provided an overview of the current global landscape for maternal and child mortality. Julie McMahon with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) discussed Iowa's health reform and IDPH's efforts to reduce unintended pregnancies.

Children's Safety Network Newsletter

The August edition of the Children's Safety Network (CSN) newsletter is now available at www.childrenssafetynetwork.org/news/default.asp. Articles in this edition include:

- Back-to-school parents earn an A+ in safety: Backpacks, cheerleading, football: An AAOS press release.
- Potentially avoidable injuries to mothers and newborns during childbirth, 2006: An AHRQ statistical brief.
- Improving the health of all Americans through safe and healthy housing: An RWJF fact sheet.
- Recognition of home injury risk by novice parents of toddlers.
- Resale Round-up: A Consumer Product Safety Commission Campaign.
- Medication overdoses leading to emergency department visits among children.
- Physical education class injuries treated in emergency departments in the U.S. in 1997-2007.
- CDC's Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Case Registry pilot project: Five states awarded.
- Celebrating Solutions Award: A funding opportunity from the Mary Bryon Project.
- CIGNA Community Grants: A funding opportunity from CIGNA Foundation.

LARC Opportunity Offered by the Iowa Initiative

Effective Solution to Unintended Pregnancies

Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARC) can now be obtained by any woman in Iowa at low or no cost at more than 80 family planning clinics throughout Iowa. Several types of long-acting, reversible contraceptives are available and can prevent an unintended pregnancy. These methods are more than 99 percent effective in preventing pregnancy for between 3 and 10 years and can be removed to allow fertility to return at any time.

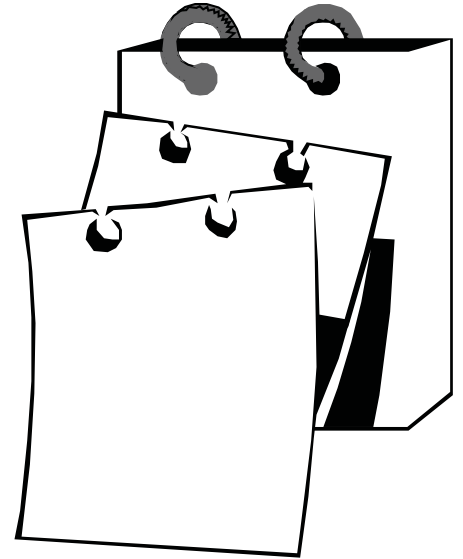
Low or no cost family planning services are available all across the state and no woman will ever be turned away because of an inability to pay. Clinic staff are available to help clients assess their personal situation and figure out what the best option is for them.

Unintended pregnancies create enormous personal costs and millions of dollars of medical costs felt by our entire society. LARCs offer an effective solution for women who do not wish to become pregnant right now.

Women who obtain LARC at any of the Iowa Initiative clinics can continue to see their regular physician. Individuals should feel free to contact their local family planning clinic to learn more about the long-term reversible contraception options that are now available at low or no cost. A complete list of family planning clinics where women can access low or no cost LARC services can be found at www.iowainitiative.org.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



***September 15-16, 2009**

Iowa Family Planning Update

Holiday Inn - Airport, Des Moines

For more information, contact Denise Wheeler at (515) 281-4907.

September 18, 2009

Lead-Based Paint Hazards ICN Workshop

1-3 p.m., ICN

Registration will be available on August 20, 2009 at www.iptv.org/iowa_database/event-detail.cfm?ID=9846. Registration deadline: September 15, 2009. For more information, go to www.iptv.org/iowa_database/event-detail.cfm?ID=9846

***October 5, 2009**

Bureau of Family Health Grantee Committee Meeting

12:15 - 1:45 p.m., Gateway Conference Center, Ames

***October 5-6, 2009**

BFH-CSCH Fall Seminar

Gateway Conference Center, Ames

October 15, 2009

Adolescent Health Conference

Cedar Rapids

GRANTEE Update

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