



Making Change

ABC is funded by the Marion Gardner Jackson Charitable Trust

November/December 2006

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: 7th Annual Sammy Fund Fundraiser

Each October since 2000, the Sammy Fund has held their annual fundraiser to raise money for worthwhile activities available to children who might not otherwise have the resources to participate. This year's event, sponsored by First Bankers Trust Co., County Market, Refreshment Services Pepsi, and Quincy Herald-Whig/WGEM, featured Honorary Chairmen Rich and Connie Niemann of Niemann Foods and County Market. Activities included the Fall Run and Walk on Sat., Oct. 14th in Madison Park and a golf outing at Westview Golf Course, followed by a dinner and silent auction at the Knights of Columbus, on Sun., Oct. 15th. The run and walk attracted 190 participants, while the golf outing drew in 150 golfers; approximately 475 meals were served at the K-C Hall. Chuck Otte said he expects this year's total to be around \$38,000 – up from the all-time high \$36,100 raised last year. However, that figure is unofficial at this point.

The Samantha Otte Youth Opportunity Fund (SOYOF) was established at the Community Foundation of the Quincy Area in September of 2000 after the first fundraiser. Over \$214,000 has been raised through the fall Sammy Fund events and

private donations. The Community Foundation of the Quincy Area has distributed 61 grants totaling \$81,770. The fund has a balance of \$135,000. A portion of this year's proceeds will go to the Community Foundation of the Quincy Area, and the remainder will be used by the Sammy Fund group for support of other youth-oriented needs.

The SOYOF supports groups that maintain and enhance community betterment, as well as those that provide artistic, leadership and humanitarian opportunity for young people. Each year qualified organizations can submit a request for funding through the Community Foundation of the Quincy Area.



MAPP Update

Putting the challenges on paper was a first step toward finding solutions, and looking at external forces and trends, opportunities and challenges was the final step in Adams County's Local Public Health System Assessment.

Representatives of county health-care providers and others came together (in October) to review findings from a comprehensive assessment questionnaire completed in June and developed by the National Public Health Performance Standards Program to measure how well the local public health system provides 10 essential services.

The lowest scores posted by the county came in three areas — linking people to needed personal health services, research for new insights and innovative solutions and assuring a competent work force. Work already is under way, for example, on linking people to health-care services.

(Julie Shepard, director of health promotion at the Adams County Health Department, said,) "There's excitement about starting new initiatives, new collaborations working with groups already existing on some of these issues. There's a lot of potential to take advantage of a lot of work already being done."

The assessment is the last of four community assessments and evaluations being done by (ABC). The alliance has adopted an assessment model called MAPP (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnership).

Working together on the assessment helps providers understand they're part of the county's larger public health picture.

"There's a real positive message from this assessment as well," said (Mark Edgar of the Illinois Public Health Institute, which facilitated the assessment project). "There's a lot of collaboration going on, a lot of good work, but with any system, there's always room for improvement."

*Excerpt from Quincy Herald-Whig, Thursday, October 19, 2006
By Deborah Gertz Husar, Herald-Whig Staff Writer*

For more information on how you can get involved in the Alliance for Building Community go to:
www.allianceforbuildingcommunity.org



Children's Book Week is Nov. 12-18. Read a story to your child, or ask to read a story at a local school.



Can You Measure Your Program's Success?

This is exactly what 20 staff members of local organizations and agencies were asked when attending Logic Model Training sessions sponsored by ABC and the United Way. Many participants found this to be much more difficult than expected. Participants learned the importance of being able to organize their program activities, outputs, and outcomes in order to revise and/or create programs that better fit each organization's mission. If you are interested in attending a future training, please contact Laura at 223-8380 or lhyde@uiuc.edu.



Updates & Reminders

Anyone interested in learning more about ABC and what we do, please contact Laura at 223-8380 or lhyde@uiuc.edu.

The Community Wellness Report is a continuous process and will undergo many revisions. For the latest edition, please visit the ABC website.

Watch the mail for information concerning Community Building Day.

Three More Organizations to Help Improve Quality of Life

West Central Child Care Connection (WCCCC)

Action Area: Affordable Licensed Day Care
Goal Area: Community Infrastructure Supports Health & Economic Well-being

WCCCC is funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services to determine eligibility for low income working parents to the child care assistance program. Once eligible, the state can assist them in paying for a portion of their child care. WCCCC is an organization that works with parents, child care providers, businesses, and community organizations to help promote the availability of quality child care services in the area.

For more information on WCCCC, please visit www.wcccc.com

Adams County Substance Abuse Coalition

Action Area: At risk behaviors
Goal: Residents Lead Healthy Lifestyles

The Adams Co. Substance Abuse Coalition will conduct prevention programs both in the school and community to reduce the number of youth that use both tobacco and alcohol. The Substance Abuse

Coalition was formed in 2002 when the Tobacco Committee and Alcohol Steering Committee of PATCH (Planned Approach to Community Health) combined and established that substance abuse is an issue in Adams County. The coalition not only involves social service agencies but also law enforcement and community supporters.

For more information on the SAC., please visit www.thinkagainfamilies.com

Coalition for a Smoke-Free Adams County

Action Area: Smoke-free restaurants/workplaces
Goal: Community Infrastructure Supports Health and Economic Well-being

The Coalition for a Smoke-Free Adams Co. will pursue an ordinance that will eliminate second-hand smoke in restaurants. The Coalition is a sub-committee of the Adams County Substance Abuse Coalition.

Specifically, it deals with issues related to secondhand smoke and the dangers of being in environments filled with the dangerous carcinogens.

For more information on the Coalition for a Smoke-Free Adams Co., please visit www.smokefreeac.com

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