



April 26, 2007
Jordan Creek Town Center – West Des Moines

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions

- Lori Younker, American Lung Association, IAC, Interim Coordinator
- Andrea Hoffman, IDPH, Asthma Program – Project Director
 - Kjersten Bobb, Evergreen Professional Group
 - Kathleen Gradoville, Iowa Health System
 - Carol Hinton, IDPH, Bureau of Family Health (new)
 - Julie Jackson, Iowa Health System
 - Joann Muldoon, IDPH
 - Christine Paulson, Dept of Natural Resources
 - Jerilyn Quigley, IDPH (new)
 - Scott Sheets, MD, Iowa Health System
 - Don Shepherd, PhD, IDPH, Center for Health Statistics (new)
 - Dawn Voss, Wellmark BC & BS of Iowa & South Dakota
 - Micki Sandquist, American Lung Association
 - Christine Paulson, DNR
 - Guest: Penny Fena, Sr. Vice President of Mission Services, American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest

Action Plan – CDC Grant Review (Andrea Hoffman)

- Andrea provided an update on the recent grant renewal process for the Asthma program, which includes in the activities of the Iowa Asthma Coalition. Currently, the following areas have been included in the renewal grant for the IAC:
 - Continuation to fund a part-time coordinator for the Iowa Asthma Coalition (Sole-Source Contract)
 - Young and the Breathless Project – fund stipends for designated/trained VNS staff
 - 2-3 school districts
 - Continuation of the “Asthma Friendly School Initiative” – mentoring program
 - In addition, other projects for the IDPH – Asthma Program
 - Occupational Health Initiative – health fairs, training, etc.
 - Pilot – Women-Only Asthma Educational Event in Blackhawk County (based on need)
 - Continuation of data surveillance – Joann Muldoon (what additional surveys are needed)

Coalition Member Update

- Dawn Voss – Wellmark is currently looking to focus more on their resources for health care. The concept of a “medical home” is being reviewed and utilizing standardized practice guidelines for their asthma patients.
- Julie Jackson – As a representative of the Iowa Society for Respiratory Care, she is working in collaboration with the American Lung Association to schedule a 1 ½ day training course – Asthma Educator Institute. Currently Iowa has only a handful of “certified asthma educators” and the need is crucial.
- Scott Sheets, MD – input – huge gaps in education and agrees that more professional education is needed for all health professionals caring for patients with asthma. Keep in mind, the updated “Asthma Guidelines” will be ready for distribution starting this fall.
- Jerilyn Quigley – She wanted to remind the members that the IDPH has a “school policy tool kit – tobacco free” available and that she remains an active member on the Safe and Drug Free schools task force.
- Lori Younker – She reminded us that recruitment for Asthma Adventure Camp, a camp for children with asthma between the ages of 7 and 14 has begun. She encouraged the coalition members to come out and visit the camp site during the week of July 22 – 28. In addition, the ALA is working with Merck pharmaceutical to provide a fall evening education program on the “updated asthma guidelines”, more information to follow. She updated the membership on the recent school initiative she is working on – Open Airways for Schools (13 schools have been reached to date) and 15 schools were represented at recent “Tools for Schools” training for building and maintenance staff.
- Christine Paulson – She provided a detailed update on the “trash burning initiative” she is leading for the DNR. She invited all members to join if they were interested. One of the key points she stated was that they are ‘stepping up’ their educational outreach campaign.
- Joann Muldoon – She provided an update to the membership on the recent activity of the “data and surveillance” team. In addition, she reminded the membership of the different reports available. She is open to learning what “information” our membership needs to paint a better picture of asthma in Iowa.

Iowa Asthma Coalition – Progress Report Update (Lori Younker)

- Coordinator status – we are close to finalizing a contract with a new coordinator, more details to follow soon
- Newsletter – first published newsletter for the IAC was issued in March; additional copies have been printed by IDPH for distribution. Articles, stories, etc are currently being selected.
- Display / Membership Promotion – updated the membership on the many different events that the coalition provided materials and/or a display
 - January – Iowa Partner’s Action for Healthy Kids – IAC chosen as “Partner Spotlight” for their January e-newsletter
 - February 8-9 – US EPA Regional Asthma Forum; Chicago, IL
 - 100+ participants; CDC represented-presented
 - Lori Younker represented the IAC and ALA

- IAC materials placed out on display for other asthma coalitions and asthma partners to view
- February/April – Association Clinicians Underserved – Realistic Measures for Reduction of Indoor Asthma Triggers; Train-the-Trainer Session
 - Andrea Hoffman participated via conference call / web-based training
- April 4 – Mercy Medical Center; Office Nurse Update – Part II – Cedar Rapids
 - Guest Speaker – Holly Conway Brown, MD
 - 67 participants (schools nurses & office nurses)
 - Displayed and coalition membership brochures placed in each participants packet
- April 4-6 (exhibits – April 5) – Iowa Society of Respiratory Care, Lung Conference – Coralville, Iowa (near Iowa City)
 - 150+ participants
 - Membership brochures placed in the participant packets
 - Coalition materials displayed along with the American Lung Association
- April 12 – Iowa School Nurse Organization (ISNO); Blank Children’s Hospital and Clinics in Des Moines
 - Sent materials to be placed at the meeting
 - Sue Tarasi, RN, passed out our materials
- March / April – Developed “Asthma Friendly School Initiative” project for selected schools to receive seed grants to assist those school who are ready to take the next steps. The Coalition will provide a mentoring program that will provide samples of school policy changes, share personal testimonials from schools that been recognized for being “asthma friendly” and continue to provide education as needed. The first six schools who show progress in taking these positive steps will be rewarded with a \$500 grant to assist in moving their AFSI to the next level.
 - Target Audience/Schools
 - Schools (nurses) who have attended a training for the “Young and the Breathless” Asthma Education Program
 - Schools participating in the Open Airways for School programs

***Next on our agenda – State Asthma Plan...Moving Ahead
Asthma in Iowa: A Blueprint for Action***

Coalition status –

- Member involvement (once our plan is complete, membership will be moved to a top priority)
- Partners / Partnerships (EPA, individuals w/ asthma, etc; continue to build)
- Sustainability (Once “plan” is completed – pursue additional grant dollars to assist in implementing goals)

Committee priorities / goals (review) -

Education – Dawn Voss, RN, Chair

Surveillance – Joann Muldoon, Chair

Environmental – Kjersten Bobb / Christine Paulson Co-Chairs

The members reviewed the current “plans” for the Education, Data and Surveillance and Environmental committees. Their task was to prioritize the goals for each area. Several of the

committees were overlapping with goals and the members were able to rearrange and prioritize. Please note, due to the “environmental” committee having most of the same goals at the “education” committee, we have co-joined the committees and now will list the committees only as the “education” group. In addition, the members recommended that we establish a “policy committee” for the future.

The following are the key priority goals for the Iowa Asthma Coalition:

EDUCATION / ENVIRONMENTAL

Overall statement – educate providers, patients and community

1. Educate health care workers and other helping professions to work toward enhancing the overall health and well-being of people who have asthma.
2. People who have asthma and their families are empowered, knowledgeable and capable of taking responsibility for their own health outcomes.
3. Increase the number of persons with asthma who receive formal patient education, including information about community and self-help resources, as an essential part of the management of their condition.
4. Community and interested organizations will focus on providing resources and education about asthma and its triggers (including environmental).

DATA / SURVEILLANCE (same)

1. Maintain a surveillance system to define and monitor the burden of asthma in Iowa.
2. Maintain an operational state asthma surveillance system so that IAC decisions and actions regarding asthma are based on needs and priorities that are measured and documented with sound methods.

Additional statements

- Prepare “resource list” for members (surveillance reports available, etc.)
- Add the “resource list” to the IAC/ALA website

The next steps:

- Each committee will meet via conference call to provide “more detail” under the action steps
 - Target areas to implement plan
 - Plan a set curriculum for audience
- Once both committees have met and delivered details action steps, the plan will be updated and presented to IDPH
 - Completion of Plan – July 15, 2007