

Wyoming Cardiovacular Disease (CVD) Coalition

Wyoming Department of Health

March Newsletter

March 4, 2008

It has been nearly three weeks since we unveiled the state plan and I can say that the response has been positive. We had media coverage from K-2 news in Casper (Mary Jansen of the prevention work group was interviewed in regards to the state plan), KGWN channel 5 news in Cheyenne, and the Laramie Boomerang all ran features. You will be able to read the Laramie Boomerang article in the press release section of this web site. As you may also have read, Governor Freudenthal proclaimed February 14, 2008 "Heart Health Day." This would be a nice goal to continue annually as Governor Freudenthal encouraged the citizens of Wyoming to know their numbers. We also received letters of congratulations from our congressional delegation and the vice presidents office. These are posted on this web site in the state plan section.

I would like to take a moment to welcome new coalition members David Simkins, and Joshua Knappenberger, MD. David is the Cheyenne Fire and Rescue EMS Coordinator, and Dr. Knappenberger is a Neurologist in Cheyenne. Both Gentlemen will serve on the Diagnosis and Treatment work group (thank you Dr. Gerrie Gardner) I would also like to welcome Dona Jean Orgeron of CRMC. Dona is the neuroscience floor manager and is familiar with the concerns facing Wyoming in regards to stroke care.

March is national nutrition month. Please pass this on to all of your co-workers and friends and lets all try to make an effort to improve our nutritional intake. A great place to start is 5-a-day. This means five helpings of fruits and veggies daily. Now this can be in the form of three servings of vegetable and two servings of fruit, or three servings of fruit and two servings of vegetables, or you get the idea. May is national stroke month. Besides the public awareness campaigns of the signs and symptoms of stroke, and the risk factors of stroke, are there any ideas you may have to help Wyoming celebrate national stroke month? If so please let me know by the middle to end of March.

The Prevention work group met via phone conference on February 26, 2008. The enthusiasm was great and they plan to follow up on April 9th with a phone conference at 9:00 am. The Quality of Life and Health disparities work group will meet March 20, 2008. Time and location is yet to be announced. Diagnosis and Treatment work group will follow up the February 12 meeting with a conference call during the lunch hour of March 18, 2008. Advocacy will meet in March to discuss post legislative issues. If there are any questions or ideas that you would like to share with your workgroup or the coalition outside meeting dates, please let your workgroup leader know and we will post it in a letter or on the web site.

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication

Dave A. Ivester Program Manager