

**Summit County Dental Task Force**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**November 12th, 2008**

**PRESENT:** Mary Agnes Kendra, Brenda Cox, Lois Foster, Leanne Beavers, Susie Howard, & Darlene Theodus.

Darlene Theodus called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Following introductions, the minutes of the July 24th, 2008 meeting were approved.

**OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:**

*HEALTHY BABY FAIR:*

Brenda Cox discussed the success of the **Healthy Baby Fair** which was held at the John S. Knight Center on October 11, 2008. Lots of good information was shared, as well as the “How To’s” of giving baby massages to finding a diaper service.

A “Family Health Pavilion” was located on the first floor and screenings for blood pressure, oral cancer, cholesterol, glucose, prostate, heart assessment, leads, immunizations, HIV, hearing loss, and podiatry was available, free of charge, to 1,300 people. All the health departments participated and reviewed services available to the public. WIC was promoting the “Born Learning” program (funded by United Way), and many representatives from our medical community participated. There were many “give a ways” and the event was educational and successful. Many thanks to all who participated!

**ACHR:**

Susie Howard gave the latest updates and progress of ACHR.

- ACHR did not get the HRSA grant, but the review was positive and they will try again in the near future. [http://www.ohio.com/news/top\\_stories/34538209.html](http://www.ohio.com/news/top_stories/34538209.html)
- ACHR will be opening a Downtown campus in April 2009. It will be located on Main St.(the Ohio Bldg.) next to the Summit County office buildings. It will have Medical, Dental; as well as house the new 340B Pharmacy that will offer discounted pharmaceuticals to ACHR patients, county employees and the public. The dental clinic will have 3 state-of-the-art operatories. Ken Jones commented in the ABJ Sunday stating “employees would benefit from the convenience, he said, and the health center would benefit by receiving money to help support its mission of serving the uninsured and underinsured.”
- The PCHR (Portage Community Health Resource Campus) will be open in Nov and have a grand opening on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm. The location is at Med Center One in Kent.

- The Dental component of PCHR is expected to open in June 2009, and will have Digital x-ray, Dentrix software and 6 state-of-the-art operatories.
- Interim diagnostic and preventive services are being coordinated with the Maplewood Career Center (Vo. Tech Center) in Ravenna. They are training dental assistants and have 3 operatories set up in the Center. It is a great win-win situation since the students actually get some hands on experience. Coordination of services is expected to commence in Jan/Feb 2009, which ties in perfectly with the February 6<sup>th</sup> Give Kids a Smile event.
- ADA has a \$20,000 grant for a “Give Kids a Smile” program, which ACHR hopes to win. Good luck to you!  
<http://www.ada.org/prof/events/featured/gkas/index.asp>
- Next year the clinic will contract with Head Start for dental care in Summit, and possibly Portage.
- Kent State Nursing Coordinator, Sue Hirtz, met with Kris to establish a timeframe for a nursing student rotation through the ACHR Dental Clinic. This further enhances the opportunity for non-dental health care professionals to gain a broader understanding of oral health/systemic health needs and lack of access to oral health care. This program is through the Community Health Nursing class and the spring curriculum would have 5 sessions to include: diet & nutrition, fluoride, oral health, applying fluoride varnish. All of these components will tie in with Head Start or elementary schools.

Barberton Community Foundation has taken a big hit to their investment funds, so there is a freeze on most funding from BCF. There are seven Barberton Public schools that will be affected in terms of the SCHD/Barberton school dental program, due to the economic crisis.

- \*\*\*\*\*There was expressed concern from the Dental Task Force Members that the attendance/participation of the meetings is low, and that interest in the viability of the Task Force is waning. The members decided to try a Bi-Annual meeting, which will be held in March and September. Stay tuned for 2009 dates. \*\*\*\*\*

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Theodus