



Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership Meeting Minutes
Via Videoconference on January 22, 2009

Participants: Frankfort site: Mary Sue Flora, Trina Douglass, Debra Israel and Dr. Ruth Ann Shepherd; Madison site: Kelly Owens; Monroe site: Jill Ford; Louisville site: Susan Borders and Kelly McKown; Lexington site: Shari Stewart; Franklin site: Cynthia Crowdus; Mercer site: Rebecca Harris (?); Montgomery site: Alicia Combs; Northern KY site: Sherri Hoffman; Murray State site: Loretta Maldaner; and BRDHD site: Diane Sprowl and Susan Brown. Notified Unable to Attend: Katrina Adams-Thompson (ill), Jennifer Riley (SBAK business), Roxanne True (Lincoln Trail District audit) and Emma Walters (Formula change duties)

I. Meeting was called to order. members were welcomed and roll call was taken. The minutes from 9-25-09 were approved as written.

II. Members shared activities that they have provided thus far during January Birth Defects Prevention and Awareness Month and also during Folic Acid Awareness Week. Shari Stewart from Lexington Central Baptist shared many activities including 250 green ribbons, FA bookmarks and fact sheets that were distributed to 65 people in childbirth classes during FA week. She also shared that Central Baptist teaches 5 childbirth classes a week and that they will continue to distribute these FA informational packets throughout the year. We've encouraged Shari to use the online reporting form. BRDHD has provided press releases, a radio interview, message sign facing busy State Street traffic, an informational display board and educational materials in both English and Spanish available to the public throughout the month of January.

III. KFAP Chair Dr. Shepherd provided an update on MCH programs: 1. Acknowledgement that many have retired from public health service during 2008 including KFAP member and mentor, Linda Lancaster. In the current economy we face budget challenges but this should not affect our ability to provide services. 2. We wish to welcome Dr. Torry Harris working from Dr. Hacker's office and focused on women's health and minority health. Joining the DPH in March is Dr. Connie White, Past President of ACOG, who will help lighten Dr. Shepherd's load in Women's Health. 3. Title 5-Survey Monkey-Statewide Needs Assessment to assess KY's top needs, followed up with statewide regional forums to help guide funding and to evaluate where we need to close any gaps. Every state, including KY must survey their needs every five years. 4. Ideas/Topics to study: We will soon have 10 years of folic acid/KBSR data available to analyze. Another hot topic is obesity and NTDs and the need to look more closely at the increasing numbers of NTD-affected pregnancies to this sector of women. 5. HBWW: Entering 3rd year of 3-year grant. More and more literature and research continues to show that late preterm babies have 3 times or more, increased risks than full-term babies do, including developmental delays and retardation. Several articles have been shared with KFAP members recently highlighting some of the risks such as psychiatric problems. A recent article in the Pediatric Journal with data from Academic Centers reveals that 36% of elective C-section and inductions are done prior to 39 weeks (the recommended ACOG guideline). The article reveals that too many physicians take late preterm and early term much too lightly (34-37 weeks). 6. Evidence Based Maternity Care: 90th Anniversary Symposium: *Transforming Maternity Care* is Childbirth Connection's project that brings together leaders from across the health care system to design a Blueprint for Action to

improve the quality of maternity care. Leaders from diverse sectors will present priority recommendations for inclusion in the Blueprint at a symposium in Washington, D.C. on April 3, 2009. The symposium commemorates Childbirth Connection's 90 years of leadership in maternity care quality improvement. This project is carried out within Childbirth Connection's Maternity Quality Matters Initiative, which focuses on policy as a strategy for improving maternity care. Kentucky will also be presenting there. 7. FIMR grant has been awarded from the KY Chapter of the March of Dimes: the BRDHD will be working with the state on this project. 8. PRAMS: Pregnancy related surveillance will provide a 2nd round later this year. Some states are funded through the CDC to provide PRAMS, but currently, KY, is not.

IV Sub-Committee Chair reports: Professional Committee: Susan Brown reported on the 2008 evaluated plan and all goals were met. In 2009, incorporate activities that not only address prematurity, but also folic acid. The following are professional activities are scheduled in 2009: Trina Douglass: A statewide training for PN nurses and also working with AHEC to provide 29 persons with a 13-week training course in the HBWW toolkit who then will be going back to their local areas to provide these activities. Kelly McKown: November 17, 2009 Prematurity Summit; Loretta Maldaner: AHEC has CEU and CME trainings for healthcare providers on prematurity and folic acid. A Louisville AHEC meeting, February 23, 2009, with Kelly McKown speaking about the KFAP messages. Dr. Shepherd mentioned the need to up-date the prematurity toolkit and is seeking volunteers. **Media Committee:** Shari Stewart reports that all 2008 objectives were met. Dr. Shepherd recommended Al Cross as a contact to the rural newspapers across the state. Beth Crace has developed a college media distribution list available upon request by emailing Beth at Beth.Crace@ky.gov Shari Stewart observed that she feels we do a good job with the underserved population of women in KY, but wonders if we are reaching the other population segment of women. Suggested goals for 2009 include: activities to reach younger audiences like: You Tube, FACEBOOK, MY SPACE, texting etc. The MODs strives to outreach younger populations by having youth council members. Media committee encourages members to identify "neighbors" who have personally been affected by NTD or prematurity, within our local communities to provide media stories on a more personal level. **Community Committee:** Diane Sprowl listed 8 activities that were "partially met" in 2008, but members provided additional activities that met those goals. Plan for 2009: Check with Katrina to see if Objective 1.1 could be omitted for next year since already covered under MOD Plan. Members want to add "Support tobacco legislation" under Objective 1.2. Objective 1.3 Activity 1 Shari Stewart provides 5 PN classes per week and distributes FA/PTL information. Objective 1.4 the Office of Minority Health added with focus on Healthy Start program targeting HR women in Louisville. Susan Borders will report her involvement and activities. Target food stamp offices and libraries to reach high risk women in addition to Head Start, DCOE, and NICU Family meetings. Loretta Maldaner offered ideas: working with dental offices to provide back to school visits targeted to low-income women in Crittenden County and also working with the Western KY Children's Health Coalition. Objective 1.4 Activity 4 is seen as an area we wish to expand upon targeting minority women through church group outreach.

V Old Business: 1. Request toolkits: Shari Stewart 3; Loretta Maldaner 2; and Jill Ford 1—with the possibility of offering toolkits to all AHEC staff across the state. 2. Shari Stewart serves on the Board of Baby Health in Lexington and provides educational services to their free clinic

VI New Business: Discussed ideas for the 2009 KFAP plan (included under committee reports).

VII Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am eastern time.

Respectfully submitted and distributed January 28, 2009 per Susan Brown, Kentucky's Statewide Folic Acid Campaign Coordinator