

Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership
January 27, 2005
Minutes

Present: Katrina Thompson, Roxanne True, Annette Harston, Linda Dunsmore, Emily Anderson, Sandy Cleveland, Fran Belvin, Alice McClanahan, Jeanie Neikirk, Lori Chesnut, Diane Sprowl, Linda Lancaster, and Greg Kleinke

Note: Susan Brown was ill and unable to attend.

Call to Order: Diane Sprowl called the meeting to order. The September 23, 2004 minutes were approved as written. Members introduced themselves.

Committee Reports:

- Media: No report. Shari Stewart and Lisa Heck were both unable to attend.
- Community: Diane gave copies of evaluation of the 2004 Community Action Committee plan and reviewed activities that were completed in 2004. Members were reminded to email, fax, or mail activity reports to Susan Brown. The reporting forms are on www.kfap.org. The committee will meet after the KFAP meeting at O'Charlie's.
- Professional: Sandy Cleveland reported for Joyce Robl, as Joyce was attending a conference. Copies of the 2004 plan evaluation were distributed and reviewed. Linda Lancaster suggested the committee add plans for 2005 for Dr. Davis to send letters to encourage participation in KFAP and for working with Dr. Adamkin to get folic acid and prematurity information in the PCC newsletter.

Chairman's Report: Sandy Cleveland and Linda Lancaster reported in Dr. Davis' absence.

Copies of the results of a Gallop survey that was published in MMWR were distributed. The report is important to read. Here is the link to the article: [Use of Vitamins Containing Folic Acid Among Women of Childbearing Age](#) According to the survey 40% of women reported taking folic acid in 2004 vs. 32% in 2003. There is also information in the report concerning issues with low carbohydrate diets.

Dr. Davis' office has moved. He is now acting as Deputy Commissioner of Public Health. His additional responsibilities and work with the legislature prevented him from attending today's meeting.

Currently there are bills in the legislature relating to newborn screening. They are HB 51, SB 24, SB 25, and SB 28. Here are links to summaries about them:
<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/05rs/HB51.htm>
<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/05rs/SB24.htm>

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/05rs/SB25.htm>

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/05rs/SB28.htm>

KFAP members are encouraged to read the bills and help support them. Katrina reported that March Of Dimes is holding a press conference at the state capitol on February 1 and encouraged anyone who can to attend.

Old Business:

- Website: The basic website www.kfap is online. There are several resources for KFAP members on the site, such as minutes, monthly reports, and activity reporting forms. There are the beginnings of pages for folic acid and for prematurity. Diane has information to add to the folic acid and prematurity pages but hasn't had the time to do it lately...those two topics need to be expanded over the next year.

There is an issue with search engines, such as Google and Yahoo not being able to find our website. Diane has submitted the website to the major search engines. But, after looking into it, Diane found out that the best way for search engines to find your site is to have other sites link to it. The National Folic Acid Council has a link to our website, and the KY Birth Surveillance Registry has recently added a link. Any members who can have a link added to their website are asked to do so and to let Diane know if there is a link

- Prematurity Summit: Katrina Thompson reported that the prematurity summit was a success. There were about 170 people in attendance, and the feedback was positive. Many participants said they would like to have more information about research on prematurity, so research will be the focus of the next summit.

New Business:

- Year 2005 Plan: It is time to write the 2005 plans, but the issue of prematurity is so complex that it is difficult to develop the plans without narrowing down the message. The partnership needs to define the target audience and decide on the main messages to promote before plans are made.
- Open Discussion: The members brainstormed the issues and main messages regarding prematurity. A transcription of the ideas that were written on flip chart sheets follows the minutes. After the discussion, the consensus on the key messages is as follows:
 - The main message for the general public is: "Prematurity is a bigger problem than you think."
 - The main message for pregnant women is: "Know the warning signs of preterm labor and what to do if it happens."

- The Partnership will use wording from March of Dimes' "One Voice" publication as its main messages, since it is research-based and will align with March of Dimes educational materials.
- The Partnership will not use wording from "One Voice" that is primarily for MOD fundraising as its main message.
- Each of the two main messages will have more detailed messages that go with them, such as:
 - Prematurity is a bigger problem than you think:
 - One in eight babies are born premature.
 - Premature babies can have life-long health problems, such as mental retardation and blindness.
 - Pregnant women need to know the warning signs of preterm labor:
 - Educate on warning signs
 - Educate on seeking medical care if preterm labor signs or symptoms occur
 - Educate on other known preventable causes of prematurity/low birth weight.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:00

Meeting Dates for remainder of 2005: May 26th and September 22nd

All meetings will be held at the State Lab Building in Frankfort, KY
Eastern Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Diane Sprowl, MEd, RD, LD

Brainstorming Ideas About Prematurity
Transcribed From Flip Chart
KFAP Meeting January 27, 2005

Need:

- Materials for general public and/or MD's re: Prematurity is a problem
- Physician kit – from physician
- Message from MD for MD
- MD put patient info in waiting room
- Low cost of free info
- “Premature babies” or “born prematurely” instead of “prematurity” to make it more personal
- Promote KY Perinatal Association CEU website when it is ready
- KFAP link to KPA CEU website when it is online
- List of known causes

Discussion:

- Make women aware of signs and symptoms of labor
- HANDS visit for PTL signs
- Smoking
- Good health during pregnancy...general—nutrition, smoking, etc.
- Address both prematurity and LBW
- School nurse involvement—materials for speakers
- Link with STD program
- Qutline
- Expand HANDS greater than 1st baby
- Prematurity is a problem
- 6-8 glasses of water daily (hydration)
- Preterm labor is a problem for the baby's health
- Smaller baby can have problems
- MD needs to take preterm labor symptoms seriously
- Get to MD early—may be able to prevent the birth prematurely
- Preterm baby may be harder to take care of
- Some preterm babies are sick until they die
- March of Dimes info is in pamphlet library
- 2/24 Lexington...Kids Now Substance Abuse in Pregnancy meeting 10-3

Brainstorming Message to Promote:

- (MOD) Prematurity is a bigger problem than you think
- Prematurity is a problem for your baby
- Prematurity is a bigger problem for babies than you think
- Prematurity is a problem for babies
- Prematurity can be a problem for your baby
- Adopt MOD “One Voice” messages (minus MOD fundraising soundbites)
- Big message – then –
 - Pregnant women need to know signs and symptoms of preterm labor
 - One out of eight babies are born premature
 - List problems