



The Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership Meeting
Minutes from May 24, 2007
State Laboratory Building, Frankfort, KY

Those present: Katrina Thompson, Roxanne True, Teresa Cooper, Linda Dunsmore, Lorry Marvin, Mary Sue Flora, Dr. Ruth Ann Shepherd, Linda Lancaster, Trina Douglass, Anya Weber, Sally Brunner, Jean Smith, Diane Sprowl, Shari Stewart, Susan Borders, Linda Litzinger, Kathy Chase and Susan Brown

Those unable to attend: Debra Israel (convention), Jill Ford (vacation), Christie Penn (convention), Sarojini Kanotra (son's elementary graduation), Dr. David Adamkin (out of town), Michele Mozea (NKIDHD) plans to attend in September, Mike Weinrauch recent injury to collarbone and shoulder (CHFS CSHCN) plans to attend in September, and Paula Watson (field trip to the capital with daughter's class).

Call to order: *Susan Brown* called the meeting to order and welcomed members. **Lorry Marvin**, *Assistant Program Services Director* with the March of Dimes was **recognized for her outstanding service** to the KFAP and received a \$50 gift card to Target, with a card signed by all KFAP members present. This token was to show Lorry that she will be greatly missed as she and her husband begin preparation to leave at the end of June, to fulfill their **two-year commitment with the Peace Corps**. *Thank you Lorry!*

Chairman's Report: *Dr. Ruth Ann Shepherd* was the keynote speaker during a March of Dimes' conference held in California this week. The five largest MODs chapters attended representing 38% of all births, in the U.S. She spoke to them about the prematurity project and how of all the applicants we were the only one with a KFAP, and how its' strengths have become an important piece of the project, crediting the KFAP with creating the Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait name and slogan, as well as contributing countless hours to the development of the toolkit. A new Perinatal Task Force is looking at protocol for Level II to Level III changes. The Title V grant is currently being written and folic acid will be a large focus. PRAMS and BRFSS: Most are aware of the behavioral risk factor surveillance survey but may not have heard of PRAMS. PRAMS is the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System. About 15 years ago KY was a PRAMS state, however soon thereafter, we no longer participated in PRAMS. There are only 22 states recognized as PRAMS, and KY is not yet funded but is working as a pilot project to "prove" that we are worthy of becoming a PRAMS state, like those funded through the CDC. A PRAMS state collects state-specific population based-data on maternal attitudes and experiences before, during and shortly after pregnancy. The program was initiated in 1987. KPA The annual KPA conference will be held June 3, 4, and 5th at Lake Cumberland. The keynote speaker, a neonatologist will also offer a Grand Rounds at UK at the conference's end on Tuesday June 5th. HANDS program received a grant (1 of 5) to study *postpartum depression*, and a piece of that included bringing Dr. Brazelton to KY to present a workshop that was held on May 11th. Dr. Shepherd said the presentation was wonderful and that Dr. Brazelton had turned 89 years old the day before. April was tobacco awareness month and discussion has occurred about how to help pregnant smoker's quit. Plan to purchase laminated cards that list the 5A's for mothers to answer rather than simply asking if she smokes. A pilot project (looking for funding) to get ALL team members to consistently question mothers addressing her using the 5 A's or the Make Yours a Fresh Start Family. Getting Cathy Melvin to come to our state would also be a big plus. Child fatality review local teams are working to uncover the cause of death. The annual report shows that most deaths are due to fetal and infant deaths. A question that has surfaced and to which an answer is being sought is: "Why did mom get late prenatal care?" We put time into interviewing mothers and trying to improve our "systems of care" at the local level.

At this time, Dr. Shepherd excused herself from the meeting and *Katrina Thompson* brought us up to date on the: **"Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait"** project. Katrina shared that although a project coordinator was previously hired, she is no longer with the project and thus, Katrina is now seeking someone to assist her with other duties so that she herself can oversee the project. She reports that all the intervention and control sites are signed and ready to go. The only delay is a small one that should be cleared up in a day or

two involving UK. She reported on the March 27th kick-off for Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait in Louisville during the KPHA conference at the Executive West Hotel. November is prematurity awareness month and prematurity awareness “day” is November 13, 2007. That is also the date for the next Prematurity Summit conference, to be held this year at the Galt House in downtown Louisville.

Calling all creative minds...*Katrina* reminded the group to refer back to the email *Susan Brown* sent about the T-shirt contest. After all, this is the creative group that came up with the idea for “Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait!” *Katrina* said she and *Dr. Shepherd* have been traveling to all the project sites and literally went from Ashland one day to Madisonville the next. *Linda Lancaster* introduced Sandy Cleveland’s replacement *Trina Douglass*. *Trina* is an OB nurse with ten years experience working at the Frankfort Hospital. She is a member of AWOHNN and *Linda* shares that *Trina* is very academically oriented. *Trina* is touted as being able to “make a silk purse out of a sow’s ear.” We’re very pleased to have *Trina* join us.

New Business: *Linda Lancaster* has a new idea that would bring recognition to well deserving KFAP members. She suggested planning a reception to correspond with our regular KFAP September 27, 2007 meeting date, but to hold it in a larger location to accommodate an anticipated larger audience. She suggested for the media committee write a press release and to also plan to take pictures that day. We would begin to promote this to encourage greater attendance and to also rekindle a spark of interest for those partners who perhaps have not attended recent meetings. We would also revitalize our health department partners not already involved to become more involved at this time to assist us with the prematurity toolkit. Members present seemed to like this idea and it was suggested that we should also invite *Dr. Davis*. Funding? Not clear as yet: we would need to provide refreshments or perhaps even a luncheon. *Linda* said she didn’t think we’d have funds to provide lunch, but *Katrina* said she would see what the MODs might be able to provide. *Linda* also envisions creating a timeline of what our major accomplishments have been these last 7 years: i.e. the first FA kick-off, the MIOP grants, tray-liners etc. But, most of all, this would be a celebration to thank the membership for all that they’ve accomplished and to encourage them continued success for the future.

Approval of the Minutes: The January minutes were approved as written with a motion from *Katrina Thompson* that was seconded by *Lorry Marvin*.

Committee reports:

Diane Sprowl reported on the **Community committee**. During their last meeting they reviewed their 2007 plans and encouraged members to outreach to their local HANDS programs, and to also contact their Extension offices to actively promote folic acid and prematurity simultaneously. *Linda Dunsmore* commented that she thought all of the extension media outreach comes from the main outlet in Lexington. She shall FU on this for us and *Linda Lancaster* offered to locate the state person at the extension to see whether they would be interested in serving on the partnership. *Diane* encouraged members to offer to be a volunteer speaker at the local level with any affiliations/groups that members belong to for promoting awareness about FA and PTB. She told us about a media outlet in BG that airs (5:55am) early but tapes at noon 2-weeks prior to the airdate. Outreaching to local homemaker’s groups, Baby Fairs, MODs’ WalkAmerica events and any other outreach available are other good targets for promoting our message. Today members received FA Rx pads to use in their workplace to help promote FA and the BRDHD has boxes more that *Linda* suggested could be placed at the Pamphlet library if KFAP members wish to place re-fill orders. It has been nearly one-year for those working on the toolkit committee project, and it is now ready to be sent for publication. *Diane* shared that the CDC’s blue book was used as a guide. The toolkit will contain handouts, fact sheets, personal stories about preterm births, a PowerPoint Presentation, and a 3-ring binder volunteers can place on its side to use as a flipchart. The toolkit is comprehensive and both professionals and non-professionals alike should find it very helpful. *Shari Stewart* followed with the

Media committee report: During their last meeting revisions were made to the 2007 plan and those were submitted to *Susan Brown* who made a few other suggestions that the group incorporated. *Shari* apologized that she didn’t have the updates with her today, but she plans to schedule a conference call later with her committee to finalize those points before sending them out to the larger group. She encouraged all KFAP members to utilize publications like the Chevy Chaser available in the Lexington area to reach the public with announcements or PSA’s more easily. Many local community websites allow calendar or message boards for upcoming events or for listing a website address that you’d like others to visit. *Lorry Marvin*

reminded the group that she leaves her position in one-month as the assistant program services director at the March of Dimes, a position she has loved. She encourages any interested members to apply for her position, which is based out of Louisville. The media committee is also happy to have *Anya Weber* as a new member here today joining us from the state level in the Communications department.

Katrina Thompson reported on the **Professional committee**: The KPHA conference in Louisville was the site for the Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait kick-off press conference. *Lorry Marvin* participated in the Hispanic Health Fairs in Louisville and Lexington, while many professionals across the state have participated in the local area Walks. We have the upcoming KPA conference/meeting at Lake Cumberland on June 3, 4 and 5th, and a professional breastfeeding conference in Lexington on June 6th. We still need help from our partners to get professional articles into print in all types of professional journals. The three intervention hospital sites have websites that they are now linking to the MODs, KDPH, the KFAP and soon (when available) to the Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait website. *Susan Brown* shared with the group about the BabyNet Coalition a group of 26 professionals in the 10-county BRADD area in South Central KY, who have 12 newspapers cooperating simultaneously to run weekly articles written by coalition members for a full year. These topics will focus on issues important to families during the childbearing years and will include the KEY messages/focuses of the KFAP. That amounts to 624 publications in a year's time. Members present received a brochure about BabyNet including its' new website: www.babynetky.com Community committee members will join the Professional committee members at Johnny Carinos restaurant for a working lunch following adjournment here today.

Welcoming of new members: New member *Anya Weber* shares that she also serves on *Becky Derifield's* state breastfeeding coalition. Jean Smith also attended her first KFAP meeting today, representing the Montgomery County HD where she serves as DON. She shared that she is also a recent graduate earning her MSN. *Congratulations Jean!* New member, Teresa Cooper joins us from the Department for Medicaid.

Open discussion: *Linda Dunsmore* mentioned the need to try to find a contact for the Medical auxiliary to link to the physicians' wives. *Shari Stewart* shared highlights from the recent Summit on Smoking she attended as the smoking cessation person from Central Baptist. She said that Dr. Shepherd spoke and was well received, as was, Cathy Melvin whom she thought was a wonderful speaker. Many hospitals across the state are going to or trying to go to smoke-free campuses. Shari explained that there are varying degrees of what that means exactly and that it evokes much controversy and will prove to be a major battle. *Shari* believes the UK Medical Center plans to be a smoke-free campus by 2009. *Susan Brown* added that just this week (May 21, 2007) TJ Samson Hospital in Glasgow, became a smoke-free campus. Employees as well as the community were informed of this plan 6 months ago, allowing plenty of time to get the help to stop smoking, if needed. This is sure to be a topic that we'll be hearing more and more about in the future.

Old Business: The Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait update-already given per Katrina Thompson.

New Business: *Diane Sprowl* explained the recent grant the Barren River District Health Department received from the KY Chapter of the MODs to produce, distribute and evaluate the new Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait Toolkit. The first step has been met with the hiring of Becky Hill, RN, as the first variable hours part-time employee hired under the new state guidelines. The toolkits will be distributed to the 6 hospitals participating in our state grant, to all KFAP members, and to the 8 local health departments within the Barren River District Health Department. The toolkit documents will be bound into a plastic spiral book spine. The slides from the Power Point Presentation will be printed and laminated and contained within a 3-ring binder designed to function as a flipchart for use during presentations where projectors are not an option. Once the toolkits are ready for distribution we will need to promote their use via our websites.

The meeting was adjourned.

Be sure to watch your email communications and/or the www.kfap.org website for further updates concerning the ***proposed September reception/luncheon for further details as they become available.***

Minutes were prepared and distributed on May 31, 2007
Per Susan Brown, Kentucky's Statewide Folic Acid Campaign Coordinator