



Illinois Coalition for School Health Centers

A project of the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition

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UPDATE- May 2003

NATIONAL UPDATE:

- **May is National Mental Health Month-** Recognizing that good mental health is essential to the well-being of every adult, child, and adolescent, May is National Mental Health Month! Visit www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/highlights/May2003/depression for more information. The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service's Administration's (SAMSHA) Center for Mental Health Services is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- **May is Healthy Vision Month-** This May marks the first National Healthy Vision Month; it will focus on reducing blindness and visual impairment in children and adolescents. For ideas and free materials, including the Healthy Vision Month 2003 Resource Guide, Calendar, and Activity Books, visit <http://www.healthyvision2010.org/HVM2003>.
- **Potato Chips, Cola, and Sweets, Oh My!-** (excerpt from PEN Weekly Newsblast for April 18, 2003)
As the U.S. Congress prepares to do its first review of school-lunch legislation in five years, critics are charging that school lunch in the U.S. is a mess. The government's school lunch program is the target of much criticism. With an annual price tag of \$10 billion, the program helps feed 27 million public school children. But many observers remain unhappy over a system that allows almost 30 percent of total calories to come from fat and counts French fries as vegetables. Some advocacy groups are urging Congress to take a hard look at a program they believe has failed. More information is available at <http://www.csmonitor.com/2003/0415/p15s01-lepr.html>.
- **State Study in California Proves Physically Fit Kids Perform Better Academically-**
The State Superintendent of California, Delaine Eastin, announced that the results of a recent study conducted by the California Department of Education show a distinct relationship between academic achievement and the physical fitness of California's public school students. Some key findings of the study are: 1) higher achievement was associated with higher levels of fitness of the three grade levels measured and 2) students who met minimum fitness levels in three or more physical fitness areas showed the greatest gains in academic achievement at all three grade levels studied. For more information, please contact Debbie Vigil at 916-319-0341 or email dvigil@cde.ca.gov

STATE UPDATE:

- **Governor Blagojevich's Budget Address Includes School Health Centers-** On Wednesday, April 9, Governor Rod Blagojevich delivered his FY 2004 budget address that included maintained funding for school health centers from FY 2003. While budget negotiations are still pending, this is exciting news for school health center friends and supporters. Please write to thank Governor Rod Blagojevich for the inclusion of funding for school health centers. While negotiations are underway, ICSHC will be championing school health centers continuously!
- **HB 2900: Children's Mental Health Act Update-** On Thursday, March 19 the Children's Mental Health Act (HB 2900) passed the House with 107 yes votes. The third Senate reading was scheduled for Wednesday, May 7. It is expected that the Children's Mental Health Act will be called for a floor vote in the Senate on Friday, May 9. Please let senators know that you want them to vote YES on this groundbreaking bill that will position Illinois to bring children's mental health to the forefront. The

Children's Mental Health Act was based on recommendations collected by the Children's Mental Health Task Force. These recommendations include the formation of a committee to oversee all statewide mental health services for children and adolescents, increased and improved mental health services in school health centers, and the expansion of the number of school health centers. For more information on the recommendations or the bill, please contact Barbara Shaw, Task Force Chair, at the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority at 312-814-1514.

- **IDHS & IDPA Trainings-** The Illinois Department of Human Services is working to get Angela, from Clinical Fusion, to do beginner and advanced-level trainings. The Illinois Department of Public Aid will be holding trainings for billing across the state in mid-July. More information will soon be available.

CONFERENCES & TRAININGS UPDATE:

- **"Improving Attendance, Improving Achievement for Students with Asthma"-** this national teleconference will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2003 from noon-1:30 pm. For more information, please contact Charlene Ebmis at 617-618-2189 or email cbemis@edc.org.
- **Cultural & Linguistic Competence Satellite Broadcast-** sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and HRSA, the satellite broadcast will be held on June 4, 2003 from 1-3:30. Registration is available online at <http://www.hrsa.gov>
- **National Conference on Asthma 2003-** "Meeting the Challenge of Healthy People 2010: Preventing and Controlling Asthma" will be held June 19-21, 2003 in Washington, D.C. Complete details of the conference are available at <http://www.asthma2003.net>.
- **National Assembly on School Based Health Care-** this year's national conference will be held June 26-28, 2003 in Reston, Virginia. More information is available at www.nasbhc.org
- **"Educating Minds and Hearts: Safe Schools, Healthy Character Development, Academic Success and Social-Emotional Education"-** July 8-11, New York, New York. More information is available at <http://www.csee.net/conferences/mindsandhearts/evaluationreport.asp>
- **School of the 21st Century Conference at Yale-** will be held July 14-16, 2003 at the Omni Hotel in New Haven, Connecticut. More information is available at <http://www.yale.edu/21c>
- **National Prevention Symposium-** July 16-18, San Francisco, California. More information is available at <http://www.chef.org>
- **"No Child Left Behind, No Program Left Behind"-** August 4-6, 2003 at the Kansas City Airport Hilton in Kansas City. Call Dr. Darrel Lang at 785-296-6716 for more information.
- **National Prevention Network Research Conference-** August 24-27, Albuquerque, New Mexico. For more information, email scarlson@ou.edu
- **The 77th ASHA Annual School Health Conference-** This year's conference, "School Health Beyond the Borders", will be held at the Camino Real Hotel in El Paso, Texas on October 15-18, 2003. There is a call for nominations! The American School Health Association is requesting nominations for the Outstanding Researcher Award; the recipient will be acknowledged at the conference. For more information, visit <http://www.ashaweb.org/conferences.html#conference>

RESOURCES UPDATE:

- **HIPAA Answers Online-** The Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services posted answers on their website to 200 frequently asked questions it has received about privacy provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). To view the questions and answers, visit www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa.
- **NASBHC Call for Tools-** NASBHC is seeking clinical or administrative tools used at your SBHC that meet a need for which nothing else seemed adequate or appropriate. NASBHC will provide space for you and/or your colleague's tool(s) at the 2003 national convention to display and discuss your tool at their newest convention resource, the Tool Shed. Email lbrey@nasbhc.org or call 919-866-0920 for more info.

- **Physical Activity Brochures Available-** The CDC announced the availability of four free brochures to help parents, teachers, and principals increase physical activity among elementary and middle school-aged youth. Some are available in Spanish and English. To print or order copies, visit www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/physicalactivity or call toll-free 888.231.6405.
- **Building Bridges to Healthy Kids & Better Students- An Action Guide-** This action guide has ideas and resources from the Council for Chief State School Officers. Contact patriciab@ccsso.org for more info.

GRANT UPDATE:

- **Illinois Asthma Community Awareness Initiative-** The Illinois Asthma Program has received a 5-year grant from the CDC to implement the Illinois State Asthma Plan, *Addressing Asthma in Illinois*. The purpose is to provide resources to support collaboration on implementing local interventions identified in the asthma state plan. A total of \$25,000 is allocated for this RFA, with applicants applying for up to \$2,500. For questions or additional information, contact clee@idph.state.il.us or 217-782-3300.
- **SAMSHA Announces \$7 Million Grant Program-** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced the availability of \$7 million in grant for up to 35 awards for effective adolescent alcohol and drug abuse treatment. For more information and details, contact Randolph Muck at 301-443-6574 or visit www.samhsa.gov.
- **Investing in Health & Human Services for Healthy Individuals & Strong Families-** 3M's support for health and human services is targeted to agencies or programs that improve quality and address gaps in service delivery systems. There is special interest in programs for youth development, parenting, and strengthening families. For more information and guidance on the grant application, go to www.3m.com/about3m/community/3m_guidelines_and_application_process.pdf

COALITION UPDATE:

- **ICSHC Committee Meeting Dates:**

--All committee meetings are held at the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition, 1256 West Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL--

- Public Policy & Advocacy Committee: Wednesday, May 28, 2003 from 9 am-11 am
- Program Development Committee: Wednesday, June 11, 2003 from 1 pm-3 pm
- Mental Health Committee Meeting: Friday, July 11, 2003 from 12 pm-2 pm (LOCATION TBA)
- **Awareness Month Follow-up-** ICSHC is still collecting and articles, letters to the editors, or general print regarding School Health Centers. It is great to collect these letters and articles to show legislators and supporters where we stand and what we accomplish. Please mail originals or clean copies to Karen Berg or Molly Nilan at ICSHC, 1256 West Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60622. Thank you for your efforts!
- **Summer Meetings-** are to be scheduled in coordination with the state billing trainings. Keep an eye out for when we will be in your part of the state!
- **State Caucus at NASBHC Conference-** Network with fellow Illinois SHC staff, hear an update from the state coalition and more, at the state caucus during NASBHC's conference in Washington D.C. The state caucus will be held Friday, June 27, from 4 pm-5:30 pm. Room announced at conference.

Have information to share? Send it to: Karen Berg or Molly Nilan
@ 312-491-8161(P), 312-491-8171(F) or icshc@ilmaternal.org