

Illinois Coalition for School Health Centers

"Keeping Students Healthy and Ready to Learn"

January 2005
Email Newsletter



Volume 2, Edition 3

Illinois School Health Centers

Amundsen High School
Anna Jonesboro Community High School
Aral Middle School
Aunt Martha's School-Linked Health Center
Aunt Martha's School-Linked Health Center
Tomcat School Health Center
Austin Community Academy/ Path Clinic
Beethoven Elementary
Blackhawk Park School Linked HC
Bogan-DuSable High School
Bond Healthy Living Center
Cahokia Senior High School
Carver Military Academy Based HC
Clemente High School Health Center
Dunbar Vocational HS Health Center
East St. Louis Senior High School
Evanston Township High School
Farragut Career Academy
Frazier Elementary School
Gallatin County School Wellness Center
Gladstone School-Based Health Center
Harrison Primary School
Hinton Family Health Center
Huginne-Crane Adolescent Health Center
Jose de Diego Elementary School
Kankakee Jr. High School
Kankakee High School
Lakeview High School
Macoupin Community Care Health Center
Maine East High School
Morton East High School
National Teacher's Academy
Orr-Rezin Academy
Phillips Academy
Pontiac Township High School
Proviso East High School
Roosevelt High School
Ryerson Elementary School
Senn High School
SOBO Health Center (South Beloit)
Sullivan High School
The School Health Link I
The School Health Link II
Trewyn Middle School
Urbana High School
Young Women's Leadership Charter School

March 2005 is Illinois School Health Center Awareness Month!!!

Let ICSHC start helping you plan events now to raise awareness for School Health Centers and their impact on the health of children and adolescents.

NATIONAL UPDATE

• Tobacco Regulation

Every day 2,000 children in this country become regular smokers and 5,000 try their first cigarette. This year alone, 440,000 people will die from tobacco-related disease, a pretty staggering statistic. The problem is, tobacco is one of the most addictive substances in existence and has a higher addiction rate than heroin and cocaine. To enhance that problem the tobacco industry has aggressively marketed their products to our children.

Did you know the tobacco industry can add any ingredient they want to their products? Tobacco products today remain virtually free from consumer protections such as safety testing and ingredient disclosure. This month, the public health community will again work with House and Senate sponsors to reintroduce FDA regulation of tobacco.

We need to urge our members of Congress to support FDA authority over tobacco. Please call or write your Member today and urge them to support and co-sponsor strong FDA regulation of tobacco! You can identify your Member by going to www.elections.state.il.us. Also, add your name or your organization's name to the growing list of Illinoisans that stand in favor of strong FDA regulation of tobacco products by emailing tobaccofreekidsillinois@att.net or calling 800-756-2445.

• Stop Medicaid Cuts

FamiliesUSA has launched a campaign to protect the Medicaid program from federal cuts. They are currently looking for individuals and families who depend on Medicaid who can speak on behalf of the thousands of Medicaid beneficiaries across the country. If you can help, or if you know others who can help, please contact Alexandra Zavala, at 1-800-593-5041 ext. 3514 or azavala@familiesusa.org.



• Illinois SHCs Featured in National Publication

The School Board News, a print and electronic news organ of the National Association of School Boards, published a story featuring Illinois School Health Centers in its November 23 (volume 24:19) edition. The article highlights the benefits and uniqueness of SHCs and also includes interviews with some of our members. The article is available online at http://www.nsba.org/site/doc_sbn_issue.asp?TRACKID=&VID=55CID=692&DID=34823

Illinois Coalition for School Health Centers

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If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please contact Blair Harvey at 312-491-8161.

STATE UPDATE

Illinois School Health Center Awareness Month

Join us for another successful campaign to promote Illinois School Health Centers! In order to remain a viable resource for youth and adolescents we must continue to educate the public and policy-makers about the School Health Center model. Our focus this year for Awareness Month will be to build awareness through the media to do just that. We will kick off Awareness Month with Media Trainings held in each region of the state. Please see the following page for this year's first event. Stay tuned for more information and more ways to get involved.

SAVE THE DATE!! School Health Critical Issues

Starting in February, the Illinois Department of Human Services will be hosting School Health Critical Issues 2005 in locations across the state. Critical Issues works to expand the knowledge of school health professionals, including administrators, health educators, nurses, school counselors, school health personnel and social workers. This year's topics include: developing emergency medical response plans, 504's, IEP's, Re-authorization of IDEA, Dental Act implementation and AED Act implementation. For more information and to register, please call the School Health Program at 217-785-4525.



February 23 - Starved Rock Lodge, Utica, IL

March 1 - Rend Lake Resort, Whittington, IL

March 4 - Lisle Hilton, Lisle, IL

March 8 - Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL

Governor's Prescription Drug Program

Illinois has the first, state-sponsored program that gives Illinois residents the opportunity to purchase safe, less expensive prescription drugs from a network of pharmacies in Canada, the United Kingdom and Ireland.

I-SaveRx offers lower prices on one hundred of the most common brand-name prescription drugs and can allow consumers to save an average of 25-50% on medication. To enroll in *I-SaveRx*, please call 1-866-472-8333 or visit www.I-SaveRx.net.

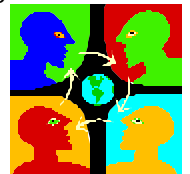
CONFERENCES AND TRAININGS UPDATE

• Illinois NET peer educators and their advisors from the Illinois Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) will be conducting the **Illinois Body Walk Project** training workshops in January and February throughout Illinois. For complete details and to register please visit www.kidseatwell.org or www.ilfccla.org/.

• **Opening Minds**, *The Chicago Early Education, Child Care and School-Age Conference*, will be held January 27-29, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place in Chicago. For a list of the workshops and to register please call 312-427-5399 or visit www.chicagometroaeyc.org.

• The Illinois Department of Public Health is now accepting abstracts for their *Beat Asthma in Illinois* conference held in September, 2005. For information visit www.ipha.com or call 217-522-5687.

• Northwestern Memorial Hospital will be hosting *Teaching Nutrition: Innovation, Science and Influence* on Tuesday, March 3 in Chicago. Please visit <http://www.nmh.org/nmh/hlc/event.htm> for full details.



GRANTS UPDATE

• The **Teammates for Kids Foundation** is accepting proposals from nonprofit organizations that support children in the area of health, education and inner city services. Visit <http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops221.asp> for more information.

• The **National 4-H Council**, with funding provided by Kraft Foods, Inc. and Cargill, is offering grants to help communities create programs and public awareness that will address the obesity problem. Application deadline is January 14, 2005. Please visit <http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/pGrntHealthyLS.aspx>

GRANTS UPDATE, CONT.

- The **Illinois Asthma Program** has released a RFA for implementing asthma activities to support World Asthma Day. The applications are due January 25, 2005. For more information, please contact Cristy Wedemeyer at 217-782-3300 or email CWEDEMEY@idph.state.il.us.
- The **General Mills Champions Youth Nutrition and Fitness Initiative** will award grants to community-based groups that develop creative nutrition and fitness programs for youth. Applications are due February 1, 2005. For full details visit <http://www.generalmills.com/corporate/commitment/champions.aspx>
- Abbot Laboratories** supports nonprofit organizations in Illinois including those that work on health and welfare issues and educational institutions benefiting the health care industry and its employees. For more information please visit <http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops208.asp>.

RESOURCE UPDATE

- The November Issue of the Journal of School Health includes peer examined papers that have studied the relationship between SBHCs and academic performance. Please visit <http://www.ashaweb.org/> to order a copy.
- The Finance Project has announced their new publication, *Financing Childhood Obesity Prevention Programs: Federal Funding Sources and Other Strategies*. The guide is available to download at www.financeproject.org or to order call 202-628-4200.
- Family Health Productions has produced a series of DVDs/Videos about the challenges kids face growing up, including underage drinking, bullying and sexual health. To learn more visit www.wordscanwork.com or call 978-282-1663.
- The MCH Library released a new edition of *Knowledge Path: Child and Adolescent Nutrition*. This electronic resource offers extensive listings of health education and nutrition resources. For more information please visit www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_childnutr.html.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ICSHC Steering Committee

Friday, January 21

1:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

****please note change of time****

Public Educ. & Advocacy Committee

Every 2nd Thursday of the month

(unless noted)

Thursday, January 13

Thursday, February 10

9:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Program Devo. & Eval. Committee

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month

(unless noted)

Wednesday, January 19

Wednesday, February 16

1:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

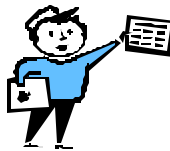
Mental Health Committee

Friday, January 28

1:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

****All ICSHC committee meetings are held at IMCHC, 1256 West Chicago Avenue, Chicago unless noted otherwise. RSVP to Blair at 312-491-8161. Phone conference is available for all committee meetings.****

ICSHC will kick off SHC Awareness Month with a **Media Training on Friday, January 21 from 9 am—12 pm** at the IMCHC office. The training will feature media skills development by Bonnifer Ballard of Heartland Alliance. Please RSVP to Blair.



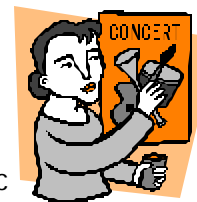
The next School Health Connection will be out in April and we welcome submissions of any kind. Research articles, program updates, job openings, student art or poetry are all encouraged. Please submit via email or fax by March 15, 2005.

COALITION TIDBITS

School Health Center Conference

SAVE THE DATE! This year's conference, "Uniting Together for Healthier Youth," will be held May 5 & 6, 2005 in Bloomington. **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS !!**

We are currently seeking abstracts for poster presentations highlighting your SHC's programs. Please contact Blair Harvey if you would like to share a specific program with other SHCs at our annual conference.



SHC AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2005

We are currently planning events and activities for School Health Center Awareness Month. If you would like to host an event, get an article printed in a publication or get involved in any way, please let us know. Help spread the word about Illinois SHCs!!