



Human Services Network Announcements April, 2008

Agency Announcements

Reminder: Please contact 2-1-1 @ 211@lifewaysmco.com if you have changes in programming or funds availability.

Laurie Brandes announced that the HSN bylaws that were updated at the March meeting are now available in print form on the website www.bhsj.org/hsn.

Sharon Bisher of the Hillsdale County Community Foundation announced that the grant application for the next cycle of grants is due May 1.

The scholarship season at the Foundation was hugely successful.

The HomeTown Partnership is asking you to complete a Leadership Survey at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=WS4wp4_2foxcY3qDXGYaHFxg_3d_3d. It takes about 10 minutes.

Gloria Vear of Alpha Omega Women's Care Center announced that AO will be conducting a training on HIPAA on April 26 in preparation of adding medical services (STD testing and ultrasound). Kathy Beckwith, a former AO board member, will be the new director at AO, and Steve Wismar, also a former board member, will be involved with men's counseling at AO. Gloria announced that Alpha Omega is looking for new board members – please contact Gloria or AO if you are interested.

Lesia Pikaart of MPRI (Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative) announced that MPRI is starting the process to review their comprehensive plan. Please contact Lesia if you know of changes in the service sector (increase or decrease in services available to parolees and/or their families). MPRI will be making adjustments to the budget for the coming year.

Keila Kilgore of Art of Creative Dimension announced that she, Kellie Schiller of LifeWays, Andrea Bricker of Healthy Beginnings, and Jane Sanderson of Kinship Care attended CISM training. Keila also attended the Domestic Violence and its Affect on Children seminar with Valerie White of the Prosecutor's office.

Cindy Rowe of Community Action Agency (CAA) announced that CAA currently has TANF gas vouchers available in \$20 increments. They have very little utility or rent money available at this time. CAA was able to assist many county residents with tax preparation, and they are still assisting some with the Earned Income Tax Credit, Home Heating Credit and the Economic Stimulus process.

Bob Henthorne of the Hillsdale County ISD announced that, because of the efforts of the Leadership Initiative, about \$500,000 was saved this year through collaborative efforts of the county school districts. The ISD and local districts will be offering several classes next year through ITV (Interactive TV) to students in the county.

Terry Vear of the Hillsdale Senior Services Center announced that the Women's Breakfast will be held on the third Wednesday of every month from 7:30-8:30am. On April 24, the Center will be offering the PATH (Personal Action Toward Health) program, a six-week program for those dealing with chronic disease or condition. There is a \$10 fee (refundable after the completion of the program). On Sunday, April 27, from noon to 3:00pm, the Center will be hosting Good Ol' Days – music, garden preparation and information, animals to pet, wagon rides, and a community dinner (\$7.00).

Roy Vargas of McCullough Vargas and Associates announced that MVA received a three-year accreditation from MARC to work with children, adolescents, and adults with chemical dependency and mental health.

Kellie Schiller of LifeWays announced that Joanne Sheldon has begun serving as director of LifeWays. She was unable to attend today (meeting in Lansing), but she is looking forward to again participating in HSN.

General Announcements

Want to quit smoking?

Now you can for **FREE**.

A **NO PRESSURE**, 2 hour one-time program that will give you the important tools you need to successfully quit when you are ready. Information on medication and strategies to help you quit will be presented.

Workshop Dates:

May 19, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

May 20, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency
20 Care Drive, Hillsdale, Michigan 49242

May 26, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

May 28, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency
570 N. Marshall Road, Coldwater, Michigan 49036

Child Care and Really Good Snacks Provided!

For more information or to sign up contact:

Kelley Mapes, Community Health Educator at 517-279-9561 ext.103 or mapesk@bhsj.org

Offered by the Branch-Hillsdale Tobacco Reduction Action Coalition

Made possible via a grant from the Branch County Community Foundation

From Carolyn Wiener, Project Lead BCBSM & MHIAC:

We all know that given the current economic climate in the state, anyone can become unemployed and subsequently uninsured. However, many of us can still make a difference. Please join me and my colleagues at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in promoting a **MIChild/Healthy Kids enrollment training seminar** for those who come into contact with the uninsured such as patient billers, social service workers, faith-leaders, small business owners and others. **The seminar will also provide information on how to complete the Medicaid application for adults.** Lunch will be served and the professionals who attend will have an opportunity to network.

Previous seminars have been very well received. Last year, in collaboration with partnering organizations we educated about 200 participants and at the last event 84 percent of those surveyed reported that the quality of the program was excellent.

This seminar will take place on the kick-off day for Cover the Uninsured Week. There is no charge for the seminar.

Learn about low-cost and free health care programs for the uninsured, including the benefits and eligibility, and how to help someone you know enroll in programs such as MIChild and Healthy Kids.

Date: Monday, April 28, 2008
Time: 11:00am - 2:00pm
Location: Cobo Arena, Room W-154
One Washington Blvd
Detroit, MI 48226

We expect hundreds to attend CTUW events this year so please register soon.

Please call Kellie Every to register by April 23, 2008 at 248.448.4466 or email her at kevery@bcbsm.com

Michigan After-school Collaborative Summer Summit

Registration is now being accepted for the Michigan After-school Collaborative (MAC) Summer Summit. The MAC Summer Summit is for Michigan's out-of-school time community including teachers, on-site staff, administrators, child care providers, and parents.

The MAC Summer Summit will be held May 30, 2008 at the Holiday Inn West - Lansing from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This year's keynote speaker will be Ron Fairchild, Executive Director of the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University.

The fee is \$70; this includes continental breakfast, lunch, afternoon break, handouts, and tote bag.

The preliminary brochure is attached in PDF but can also be found at www.miafterschool.com <<http://www.miafterschool.com>> . On-line registration with credit card can be accepted on-line at www.miafterschool.com <<http://www.miafterschool.com>> .

Registration deadline is May 15, 2008.

If you have any questions please e-mail stoela@michigan.gov.

From the Child Welfare League of America website:

Presidential Candidates Comment on Key Child Welfare Issues – from Child Welfare League of America:

A review of the websites for the three main Presidential candidates offers interesting insights. Child Welfare League of America looked through the candidates' posted position papers and press statements specifically on the issues of child abuse, foster care, adoption, youth at risk, home visiting, and child care. In the case of child care, we included Head Start, Pre-K, and subsidized child care.

These position statements, which we took verbatim from the candidates' websites, are on the [CWLA website](#). CWLA does not support any one candidate, but is providing their stances for educational purposes.

From the Connect For Kids website:

Helping Families Achieve Financial Stability: Toolkit

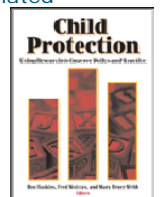
The National League of Cities' Youth, Education and Families Institute has prepared this action kit for city leaders.

http://www.nlc.org/ASSETS/3978D79DDB68469CA6632F9464D2134E/IYEF_Action_Kit_Financial_Stability.pdf

Multimedia: National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being

This is the first nationally representative study of children who have been reported to authorities as suspected victims of abuse or neglect and the public programs that aim to protect them. Here's a multimedia trifecta of related resources to help you get the facts:

- [Video](#): Chapin Hall's Fred Wulczyn and The Brookings Institution's Ron Haskins discuss the findings in their new book on the survey, *Child Protection: Using Research to Improve Policy and Practice*.
- [Audio](#): listen to a recording of the related panel discussion.



- [Reports and resources on the Survey](http://www.chapinhall.org/article_abstract.aspx?ar=1457&L2=61&L3=129)
http://www.chapinhall.org/article_abstract.aspx?ar=1457&L2=61&L3=129
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From: **The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health**

We invite you to sign up and participate in the continuation of our 2008 national topical telephone conference call series. The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health is sponsoring this exciting and well-received monthly series of topical calls. The conference calls cover important and emerging trends in the mental health field. Presentations from expert resource persons are followed by open discussion in order for all participants to ask questions and enrich the conversation. We hope you will share this educational opportunity with others so that they may participate as well.

Please visit our website:

http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/programs/ta_center/tacalls2008.html

for registration information and the full 2008 Calendar of Calls. The next call in this series will be Thursday, April 17, at 1:00 p.m., ET on **Providing Early Childhood Mental Health Services that Meet the Needs of Young Children and Their Caregivers: Building The Evidence Base**. PowerPoint presentations and reading materials for each call will be posted on the website and can be viewed while listening to the calls.

All information about the national conference call series can be found on our website, including announcements, registration forms, handouts, and evaluation forms. There is no registration fee for these calls. The only cost that you will incur will be the long-distance phone charges. You should register for each call at our website so that we know how many lines to set up and how to structure the call to meet your needs. If you have any trouble accessing our website, please call or e-mail MelKisha Knight at (202) 687-5000 so that we can arrange to mail or fax you the information.

Should you have any questions about the telephone conference series, please contact Marisa Irvine, Conference Call Coordinator, by e-mail at marisairvine13@hotmail.com

We hope that you and other individuals in your state, tribe, territory, and community will find these calls useful. We look forward to your participation and feedback.