



COALITION TO HOST TOWN HALL MEETING TO DISCUSS HEALTHCARE'S UNINSURED

In addition to Coalition President/CEO Stephen Skorcz's invitation to serve on the Advisory Council of Michigan's State Planning Project for the Uninsured, the State of Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has asked the Coalition to host a Town Hall Meeting to discuss Genesee County's Healthcare Uninsured & Underinsured.

Scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Riverfront Character Inn in downtown Flint, the Town Hall Meeting seeks to build consensus and encourage dialogue among healthcare providers, policy makers, purchasers, and the community at-large. The meeting is open to anyone interested in participating in the discussion. A light supper will be provided for all those in attendance.

The first of several Town Hall Meetings taking place throughout the State, Genesee County's forum discussion will provide real insight into the lack of access to health care that uninsured/underinsured residents face, exploring how the problem impacts the community as a whole. Michigan's State Planning Project will use the discussions as a tool to develop a plan that puts forth a set of realistic strategies and viable outcome options that will eventually lead to health insurance coverage for all Michigan residents. Once formulated, the plan will be presented to policy makers at the State and Federal levels.

For additional information, to order event flyers, or to notify the Coalition that you plan to attend and participate in the Town Hall Meeting, please contact the Coalition at (810) 232-2228 or gfhc@flint.org.

¡ATENCIÓN! HISPANIC COLLABORATIVE HEALTH & SAFETY FAIR IS APPROACHING FAST!

For the second consecutive year, the Coalition is lending a hand to the Genesee County Hispanic/Latino Collaborative as they prepare to host their annual Health & Safety Fair in celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Taking place Sunday, September 18, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church (2500 N. Franklin Avenue, Flint), the Health & Safety Fair will provide health information, free screenings, healthy food, music and fun for people from all walks of life! Last year, over 200 people attended the fair, along with 30 vendors from organizations specializing in health care and/or safety

provision. A 5K Walk through Kearsley Park is also planned.

This year's Fair currently has plenty of vendor and sponsorship opportunities remaining for all those interested in distributing educational materials, promoting health and safety activities, etc. To reserve a table to participate in September 18th's activities or to register as an event sponsor, please contact the Coalition at (810) 232-2228.

SPANISH SPEAKING DIABETES EDUCATOR TO SPEAK AT SEPTEMBER 18th HEALTH & SAFETY FAIR

Over the past 20 years, the occurrence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes in the Hispanic/Latino population in the United States has dramatically increased. In spite of this, the Coalition's Diabetes Task Force has repeatedly searched for a Spanish speaking diabetes educator only to find that one does not exist in the entire State of Michigan.

Realizing this problem is too important to put aside, the Coalition has arranged for a bilingual diabetes educator from the Chicago Latino Diabetes Coalition (CLDC) to speak to those in attendance at the Genesee County Hispanic Latino Collaborative's Health & Safety Fair taking place September 18, 2005 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Flint. Julia Escamilla, CLDC Coordinator, will give two presentations in Spanish to anyone who would like to attend. From 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Ms. Escamilla will speak to diabetes prevention methods, followed by a second session from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. that will address diabetes control. For more information or to learn how you can help spread the word about this opportunity to educate Genesee County's Hispanic/Latino community on the risks associated with diabetes, please contact the Coalition at (810) 232-2228.

2005 UNDOING RACISM WORKSHOPS

Racism remains a major issue, as research continues to show that without question, racial disparities are prevalent in our healthcare system. Don't be a part of the problem! The Coalition's next Undoing Racism Workshop (URW) is scheduled for **September 14 – 16, 2005** and plenty of open spaces remain! The September Workshop will run from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the first two days before concluding with a session from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the third and final day. The Workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn Gateway in Flint. If you would like a registration brochure or are aware of individuals or organizations that may be interested in attending, please contact the Coalition at (810) 232-2228.

InTouch: Greater Flint (Michigan) Health Coalition

AFRICAN KICK OFF EVENT SET TO TAKE PLACE OCTOBER 1, 2005

Now that the African American Family Resource Information Center And Network (AFRICAN) has begun accepting calls, the "official" kickoff event is set to take place Saturday, October 1, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church (1035 E. Carpenter Road) in Flint.

A highlight of the event will take place at 12:00 noon, when Beverly Coleman-Miller, M.D., an internal medicine physician and former editorial director of "Minority Health Today" will serve as the kickoff's keynote speaker. Dr. Coleman-Miller previously spoke in Flint to address infant mortality at the May 2000 REACH 2010 Precious Black Babies Conference. A health expo, as well as presentations addressing topics such as safe sleep, healthy eating, and breastfeeding, will also take place. For more information, please call the AFRICAN at (810) AFRICAN (237-4226).

PHARMACY TASK FORCE TEAMS UP WITH MARR COALITION TO FIGHT ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE!

Teaming up with the Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction (MARR) Coalition, the Coalition's Pharmacy Task Force is helping to spread an important message: antibiotics don't work for a cold or the flu!

According to MARR Coalition partner the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), widespread inappropriate use of antibiotics is fueling an increase in drug-resistant bacteria, making antibiotic resistance one of the world's most pressing public health problems. As September 26 – 30 is "Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Awareness Week," the Pharmacy Task Force has assisted the MARR Coalition with its statewide public education tour.

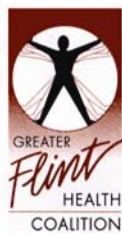
While MARR Coalition facilitated antibiotic resistance trainings have already taken place within the Genesys Parish Nurse System, a special school presentation of "Antibiotics and You" is scheduled for September 27th in

Bendle Public Schools. This presentation will teach third grade children the value of proper hand washing and other techniques that reduce exposure to bacteria. Nursing students from the University of Michigan – Flint will also attend to learn how to give future presentations. In addition to these local events, Coalition Board of Directors' Chair Henry Gaines will also represent the Pharmacy Task Force at the MARR Coalition's "Legislative Action Day," an educational event for legislators taking place at the State Capitol Building in Lansing on September 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information on any of these events, please contact the Coalition at (810) 232-2228.

PRC "SPEAK TO YOUR HEALTH! COMMUNITY SURVEY" RESULTS PREPARE FOR RELEASE

Developed collaboratively by representatives from the University of Michigan School of Public Health, the Genesee County Health Department, the Greater Flint Health Coalition, University of Michigan-Flint, the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (GCCARD), and the Flint Odyssey House Health Awareness Center, the Prevention Resource Center of Michigan's (PRC/MI) Community Survey was designed to monitor and understand community health and community concerns, monitor the effects of various health initiatives, and to promote healthful changes within Genesee County.

The 2005 survey gathered information from over 1700 Genesee County residents on topics including health behaviors and attitudes, nutrition, physical activity, cancer screening, health care utilization and access, perceptions of community conditions, racial identity and discrimination, and mental health. On Thursday, October 6, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., the PRC will host a 2005 Community Survey "Roll Out Presentation" at GCCARD (601 N. Saginaw St., Flint). If interested in attending or to request survey results, data analysis, or other information, please contact Daniel J. Kruger at (734) 936-4927 or kruger@umich.edu. Information is also available at http://www.sph.umich.edu/prc/products/survey_info.html.



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Mission: Improve the health status of our citizens.

Improve the quality and cost effectiveness of the health care system in our community.