



SAVE THE DATES! FIRST-EVER FLINT HEART HEALTHY WEEKEND JULY 24TH AND 25TH

Later this month, the Coalition will be co-sponsoring the first-ever Flint Heart Healthy Weekend on Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25 preceding the week of Buick Open events. This event has been organized to help raise awareness about cardiovascular health and reduce the number of Genesee County residents living with undiagnosed hypertension. The program involves free blood pressure screenings at the following locations around Genesee County:

- **Genesee Valley Shopping Center from 12:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. (3341 S. Linden Road)**
- **Meijer Pharmacy (Pierson Road) from 12:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.**
- **Meijer Pharmacy (Center Road) from 12:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.**
- **Meijer Pharmacy (Hill Road) from 12:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.**
- **Genesee County Free Medical Clinic from 1:00p.m. to 3:00p.m. (2437 Welch Blvd.)**
- **Antioch Baptist Church SATURDAY ONLY from 10:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. (1083 East Stewart Avenue)**

To encourage participation, advertisements will run locally publicizing a raffle of Buick Open tickets, occurring every half-hour, and a free pedometer giveaway to some lucky participants. Nurses will be on hand to conduct the screenings and patients with poor results will be encouraged to contact their physician or other health care resources for treatment. Information cards will be available on how to access these health care resources for participants that are un- or under-insured.

MICKY COMES TO FLINT!

Mickey Mouse greeted conference goers and played host at Mott Children's Health Center for the first-annual national "Making Friendly AccessSM Work – Community Project Sustainability Community Conference" on June 3 & 4. Friendly AccessSM is a national project dedicated to improving the access, use, and satisfaction of health care for expectant mothers, infants, and young children. Mickey was on hand to help celebrate the success of so many Friendly AccessSM communities and to add a bit of Disney Magic to the event.

The Community Conference served as an opportunity for all Friendly AccessSM representatives to discuss their accomplishments, similarities, and differences in how they have implemented Friendly AccessSM into their

communities. It also gave newly affiliated communities an opportunity to gain insight into the challenges and successes of the demonstration sites.

The attendee list included representatives from The Lawton & Rhea Chiles Center for Healthy Mothers and Babies at the University of South Florida, Jacksonville Friendly AccessSM, East Tennessee Friendly AccessSM Knoxville, Indiana Access, and new affiliates from Phoenix, Chicago, Syracuse, and Des Moines. Locally, attendees hailed from the University of Michigan, Hurley Medical Center, Mott Children's Hospital Center, Genesys Health System, McLaren Regional Medical Center and the Greater Flint Health Coalition.

One of the Community Conference's many highlights was a special panel of representatives from the three local Flint foundations: Ann Richards, Program Officer with the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation; Kathi Horton, President of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint; and Cassandra Joubert, a Senior Program Officer with the Ruth Mott Foundation. This panel gave attendees various strategies to use when approaching local funding in their respective communities.

Offering a compliment to the Coalition, Ann Richards stated **"...if there is a secret [to being funded] it's that you must deliver... and [The Greater Flint Health Coalition] delivers."**

The coalition is proud to have hosted the first-annual "Making Friendly AccessSM Work – Community Project Sustainability Community Conference" the experience was yet another step towards improving the health status of mothers, infants, and young children in Flint/Genesee County and throughout the United States.

SPOTLIGHT: DEMAND TREATMENT!

The DEMAND TREATMENT! Initiative came to Flint in 2002 when the Coalition's Mental Health and Substance Use Task Force (MHSU-TF) was selected to partner in the initiative with Join Together, a national resource for communities taking action against substance abuse. As part of this partnership, the Coalition received a \$60,000 grant and technical support from Join Together to carry out the DEMAND TREATMENT! mission of increasing the number of people who receive treatment for substance abuse and dependency problems.

InTouch: Greater Flint (Michigan) Health Coalition

As part of the DEMAND TREATMENT! Initiative's efforts, MHSU-TF members have been providing support for Greater Flint Project Vox (GFPV). GFPV is designed to give a greater voice to people who are alcoholic or drug addicted. It was founded in 1999 with help from the Michigan Chapter of the National Council of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. Over the years, GFPV has achieved success through projects such as Soberfest and Recovery Walk and today the group's leadership is seeking ways to take the project to the next level. One source to help them achieve this goal has been assistance from the members of the Coalition's MHSU-TF. These members help GFPV in the development of its organizational structure and in the strategic planning process.

Some possible GFPV interventions that may be developed include: an "alcohol warning label" campaign, assistance to stakeholders in developing a non-medical detoxification facility within Genesee County, and the formulation of a network of volunteers who are willing to assist Emergency Departments in providing services to drug and alcohol dependant patients.

Also of note is the DEMAND TREATMENT! heart failure/alcohol dependence screening activity. This screening—developed by the MHSU-TF in conjunction with McLaren Regional Medical Center and the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor—will measure the comorbidity rate between alcohol dependence/abuse and heart failure. It will also assess issues such as depression and a person's social support system. Overall, DEMAND TREATMENT! and GFPV are important assets for the community and especially for those residents who are alcoholic or drug-addicted.

CONGRATULATIONS DR. BRENDA ROGERS-GRAYS!

Brenda Rogers-Grays, D.O., a family practitioner at the McLaren Regional Medical Center, was awarded the Pinnacle Award of Special Recognition for Excellence in Diabetes Care from the Michigan Association of Health Plans. She was commended for her role as a community advocate for higher standards of care for diabetes patients and for her commitment to professional excellence in diabetes care. In her work with the Coalition, Dr. Roger-Grays serves as a chairperson of the Diabetes Task Force. Congratulations on your achievement and thank you for

your dedication to improving the health status of the residents of Genesee County!

FRIENDLY ACCESSSM PROGRAM RECEIVES \$30,000 FROM THE CHARLES STEWART MOTT FOUNDATION

The Coalition has received a grant of \$30,000 from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation for further funding of the Flint/Genesee County Friendly AccessSM Project. The Coalition wishes to thank the Mott Foundation for its continued support of the Friendly AccessSM program.

JOIN US FOR UNDOING RACISM WORKSHOPS IN JULY AND SEPTEMBER!

The first of two 2½ day Undoing Racism Workshops will be held Monday, July 26 through Wednesday, July 28 at the Genesys Conference and Banquet Center on the campus of Genesys Health System in Grand Blanc. On the first two days, the workshop will run from 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. and on the final day it will run from 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. The second Workshop will be held on September 29, 30, and October 1 from 8:30a.m.-6:00p.m., 8:30a.m.-6:00p.m., and 8:30a.m.-12:00p.m., respectively. **To register or for more information, please contact the Coalition at (810) 232-2228.**

RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR COALITION MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues received since 1996: \$2,558,500
Grants received since 1998: \$5,797,600
RETURN ON INVESTMENT:
126%



519 South Saginaw Street, Suite 306
Flint, Michigan 48502-1802
Web Site: www.gfhc.org
Telephone: (810) 232-2228
Fax: (810) 232-3332
E-mail: gfhc@flint.org

ATTEND THE FIRST-EVER FLINT HEART HEALTHY WEEKEND!!!
July 24 & 25, 2004
FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE THE ARTICLE INSIDE!

Mission: Improve the health status of our citizens.
Improve the quality and cost effectiveness of the health care system in our community.