



**West Virginia Asthma Coalition**  
Spring 2011 Quarterly Coalition Meeting  
11:00am – 3:30pm Thursday, May 12th  
Tamarack, Beckley, WV

**In Attendance**

1. Anita Tracy
2. Jean Tenney
3. Sharon Hill
4. Zona Harris
5. Chuck Menders
6. Colleen Roshau
7. Jeanne Chandler
8. Deloris Wilder
9. Paula Fields
10. Dr. Rodney Fink
11. James Brock
12. Mary Beth Timko
13. Joan Skaggs
14. Stephanie Shahbandy
15. Adam Baus
16. Geff Bergh
17. Susie Criss
18. Gloria Umoh
19. Tonya Yablonsky
20. Lindsay Elkins
21. Lora Lipscomb
22. Cynthia Keely Wilson

**Minutes**

***Welcome and Introductions – Lindsay Elkins, WVAC Manager***

Lindsay Elkins welcomed and thanked all participants for their attendance. Participants were encouraged to sit with assigned subcommittees in order to participate in discussion throughout the meeting. Krista Capehart was unable to attend the meeting; therefore Lindsay Elkins reviewed materials for the Respiratory Rally on her behalf. The Respiratory Rally is scheduled for June 11, 2011 at the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy. There will be a patient and provider track during this one-day conference for lung disease. For more information about the Rally, please contact Christine Compton at [ccompton@lunginfo.org](mailto:ccompton@lunginfo.org).

***ACCESSHealth – Dr. Rodney Fink, DO, Medical Director of ACCESSHealth***

Cynthia Keely Wilson, WVAEPP Manager introduced Dr. Rodney Fink. AccessHealth, a Federally Qualified Health Center, is a nonprofit organization committed to providing comprehensive primary health care to the citizens of Raleigh County and surrounding areas. To address

the continued need for similar services in Raleigh County and surrounding areas, AccessHealth has continued to grow and operates health centers in convenient locations, including several pharmacies. AccessHealth is proud of the fact that they have not strayed from their original commitment to provide quality comprehensive health care to residents of their service areas without regard to their ability to pay.

Dr. Fink provided a personal insight on the practice of a physician. He explained the process of gaining funding for this project and the importance of bringing medical education “home”. Dr. Fink’s focus through the funding they recently received from CDC is pioneering the education of residents from the WVSOM in the field of Family Practice. The focus of AccessHealth is on the “whole” practitioner – as Graduate Doctor, as Technician, and as Healer.

### *Subcommittee Breakout Sessions*

#### ***Community Outreach & Education – Lora Lipscomb***

The subcommittee is continuing work on the informational postcards for people to gain more information regarding asthma and the coalition. The committee is piloting a program to determine the amount of interest in these cards. Cards were distributed during the meeting, and an evaluation meeting will be conducted the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> to determine feedback and the continuance of this program in a more advanced manner, such as through possible paid postage. If you are interested in receiving these informational postcards for yourself or for your facility for distribution, please contact Lora Lipscomb at [lora.d.lipscomb@wv.gov](mailto:lora.d.lipscomb@wv.gov).

#### ***Environmental – Cynthia Keely Wilson***

Jeanne Chandler provided members of the coalition with “Burning Garbage is Illegal” posters for distribution in communities.

The subcommittee is continuing work with the Asthma-Friendly Business Awards. Criteria for these awards are being outlined, such as educational, indoor air quality, industrial, etc. These awards are being considered for presentation in conjunction with the Wellness Council of West Virginia conference, as well as the WVAC Annual Retreat. For more information, please contact Cynthia Keely Wilson at [cynthia.a.keely@wv.gov](mailto:cynthia.a.keely@wv.gov) or Patty Deutsch, committee chair, at [patty.deutsch@wcwv.org](mailto:patty.deutsch@wcwv.org).

#### ***Schools & Pediatrics – Paula Fields***

The subcommittee would like to explore the idea of asthma-friendly school award renewals, for those that have been awarded in the past. We received 7 new schools applications for the 2011 Asthma-Friendly School Awards.

The subcommittee would like to use the Asthma-Friendly Business Awards in conjunction with statewide preschools and daycares to encourage asthma-friendly environments.

#### ***Clinical Asthma Management – Adam Baus***

Adam Baus reported on the progress of the Rainelle electronic asthma action plan incorporated with the EMR. Currently, Rainelle has an electronic asthma action plan that will work in the interim as the group determines the logistics of this plan.

Colleen Roshau will visit the Cabin Creek project currently being done by Len Picha and Cynthia Keely Wilson to determine the ability to implement this in her own clinic at Northern

Greenbrier Health Clinic. The subcommittee is also continuing work on the basic-level packet of information that can be distributed to various health centers and clinics to also begin implementing asthma education. For more information on this project, contact committee co-chair Adam Baus at [abaus@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:abaus@hsc.wvu.edu) or Susie Criss, co-chair, at [Susie.criss@pihn.org](mailto:Susie.criss@pihn.org).

***Using Data to Identify Environmental Triggers in West Virginia – Sharon K. Hill, Chronic Disease Epidemiology Unit***

Sharon Hill provided information and results from the Adult Asthma Call-back Survey from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Sharon reviewed several factors that take place in the home of adults with current asthma. These factors include pets in the home, the use of gas for cooking, carpeting or rugs in the bedroom, etc. There were some areas that Sharon gave suggestion for the coalition to focus on –

- A high number of individuals have carpeting or rugs in the bedroom – need to educate more individuals on this, such as proper cleaning techniques.
- Women tend to have more pets in the home – need to bridge the understanding of pets and asthma.
- Need to target adults with current asthma that are also smokers, particularly those that fall in the Low Socioeconomic (SES) category. It was noted that those with asthma are more likely to smoke than those who don't have asthma.

Sharon also suggested many ways to reduce these triggers, including exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchens, washing bedding in hot water, and mattress/pillow covers. Sharon also suggests looking geographically at a target location to focus on some of these primary issues. For questions, please contact Sharon Hill at [sharon.k.hill@wv.gov](mailto:sharon.k.hill@wv.gov).

***Closing Remarks – Cynthia Keely Wilson***

Cynthia provided copies of the Asthma & Allergy insert which ran in the Sunday Gazette on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The insert highlighted the WV-AEPP, the WVAC, asthma interventions supported by the WV-AEPP, and other topics. She also provided an update on the current standings of the Federal Budget in conjunction with the WV-AEPP and the WV Asthma Coalition. Finally, Cynthia provided an update on the upcoming Camp Catch Your Breath at Jackson's Mill on July 24-29 and the Annual Asthma Retreat at the Embassy suites on August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions or would like to add information to the asthma webpage, please contact Cynthia at [cynthia.a.keely@wv.gov](mailto:cynthia.a.keely@wv.gov).