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KUDOS

Congratulations to Cindi Kamuf, Shelly Austin and the HANDS staff for being selected to receive a National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Promising Practice Award! And a very special thanks to Cindi for all her hard work writing up and submitting the abstract outlining the innovative use of Skype to promote the GRDHD HANDS program initiatives. – Carrie Conia

Congratulations to the GRDHD Accreditation Team on receipt of a KPHA Quality Improvement Award in recognition of accreditation efforts – well done! Thanks to all staff who contributed to the collection, review and submission of the documentation required for PHAB as we continue our journey toward accredited status! - C. Conia

Becky Horn deserves the “On Top of It!” award. In the past few weeks, I have contacted her numerous times to confirm information or provide additional documentation for accreditation needs. Every time she has dropped everything and gotten me the requested information in less than 5 minutes. She is awesome! – Jessica Austin

CLAY HORTON NAMED SANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

Clay Horton, Director of Environmental Services for the Green River District Health Department was named the “Sanitarian of the Year” at the annual KAMFES (Kentucky Association of Milk, Food, and Environmental Sanitarians) conference in Lexington, Kentucky held in February 2014. Mr. Horton was selected for this prestigious award because of his food borne illness investigation that identified the food source of the 2012 salmonella outbreak that sickened 261 people across 24 states resulting in 94 hospitalizations and 3 deaths. All 3 deaths were in this region of Kentucky.

Clay also tracked the source of the outbreak back to cantaloupes originating from Chamberlain Farms Produce in Owensville, Indiana.

GRDHD RECEIVES COMMISSIONER’S AWARD

KPHA (Kentucky Public Health Association) 66th Annual Conference was held April 14-17 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Louisville. "Embracing the Future of Public Health" was the conference theme. Dr. Stephanie Mayfield opened the conference. Keynote speaker was Susan Zepeda, PhD, President/CEO, Foundation of a Healthy Kentucky. During the awards luncheon on April 16, GRDHD received a Commissioner's award for Quality Improvement for Accreditation. See photo of Connie Nalley, Director of Nursing receiving award.
COUNTY NEWS

DAVISS COUNTY: >>>No News Reported<<<

DISTRICT OFFICE: See story below.

HANCOCK COUNTY: We would like to welcome our new janitor, Pamula Miller. She has been doing a great job!!

HENDERSON COUNTY: >>>No News Reported<<<

MCLEAN COUNTY: >>>No News Reported<<<

OHIO COUNTY: >>>No News Reported<<<

UNION COUNTY: We would like to congratulate Erica Schmied, RN, on completing all of the required clinical nurse trainings and receiving her CRET certification! Erica has worked tirelessly to complete these trainings in order to better server the clients of Union County as quickly as possible.

Our staff welcomed spring with a potluck in March. A good meal and great fellowship was enjoyed by all, particularly after a long, cold winter!

Our health center is excited to be hearing the pitter patter of little feet later this summer! Becca Logan, environmentalist will be welcoming her brand new baby in July and we are all very excited. Congratulations to Becca and her family.

WEBSTER COUNTY: >>>No News Reported<<<

DISTRICT OFFICE WEARS BLUE FOR NATIONAL DRESS BLUE DAY!

March 7th was National Dress in Blue Day. This day is set aside to increase awareness about Colon Cancer Prevention and Detection.

According to the American Cancer Society, approximately 2,200 new case of colon cancer will be diagnosed in Kentucky this year and nearly 900 people will lose their lives to the disease. “Kentucky has one of the highest mortality rates of colorectal cancer in the nation” - Madeline Abramson, wife of Lt. Governor Jerry Abramson stated.

Pictured: (back row from right) Rich Nading, Becky Horn, Mitzi Helton, Angela Woosley, Rebecca Baird, Jaime Forsythe, and Mary Fuqua (front row from left) Deborah Fillman, Shanni Jones, Lisa Paul, Anita Owens (kneeling), Mary Dowdy and Jackie Sigler
Welcome, Lisa Stanley!

Hello everyone, my name is Alisa (Lisa) Stanley and I am the new MCH Coordinator for Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Webster and Union Counties. I am based in Daviess County. I am looking forward to meeting everyone and want to say thanks to all for your kindness, help and words of welcome!

Welcome, Jill Nall!

Hello to all GRDHD staff! My name is Jill Nall and I’m honored to be apart of the team again! I was employed with GRDHD as a School Nurse last school year. I’m excited to be back and working in the HANDS program. I’m loving my new role and am having a great time getting to know my families. I’d like to give thanks to all my co-workers, supervisors, and to others in the different departments, who have welcomed me back to GRDHD.

Welcome, Angela Onstott!

Hello! My name is Angela Onstott and I am working in Daviess County as the new Sr. Support Services Associate I in Home Health. Thank you to everyone I've met thus far and especially to those in the Home Health Department for teaching me and always being so willing to help me when I have a questions. If I haven't met you yet, I look forward to doing so!

National Men’s Health Week

National Men’s Health Week is celebrated June 9th through 15th. Make your health a priority and take action daily to live a healthier and more productive life.

There are many easy things you can do every day to improve your health and stay healthy. Get good sleep. Toss out tobacco. Move more. Eat Healthy. Tame Stress. Take a bike ride. Toss a ball.

Stay on top of your game – visit your doctor for regular check ups, pay attention to signs and symptoms, keep track of your blood pressure and cholesterol readings, and keep your immunizations up to date.

For more information visit www.cdc.gov/men

National Women’s Health Week

National Women’s Health Week is an annual observance to encourage you to make your health a priority! It begins on Mother’s Day May 11th through the 17th.

What does it mean to be a healthy woman? It’s being as healthy as you can be, taking steps to improve your physical and mental health.

- Visit a healthcare professional for regular check ups and preventative screenings.
- Get active and eat healthy.
- Pay attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress.
- Avoid unhealthy behaviors such as smoking, texting while driving, and not wearing your seatbelt or bicycle helmet.

For more information visit www.womenshealth.gov
Amy Boswell scheduled to present at Conference in Louisville

Amy Boswell, First Steps District Child Evaluation Specialist (DCES) will be a presenter at the upcoming Ready Kids Conference sponsored by The Governor's Office of Early Childhood. The conference is scheduled for June 16-18, 2014 at the Galt House in Louisville.

Amy and a colleague will be presenting to teachers, therapists, parents, caregivers, and other professionals about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). ABA has been identified as the most effective research based intervention for treating autism spectrum disorders. Children with other disabilities have also made great improvements using ABA techniques to increase communication skills and decrease problem behavior.

If you are interested in attending this conference, you can visit the following link for more information: http://kidsnow.ky.gov/Improving-Early-Care/Pages/Ready-Kids-Conference.aspx -Submitted by Mitzi Helton

Humana Vitality Team meets Goal!

In September 2013, the GRDHD began offering HUMANA VITALITY screening to all Kentucky employees who carry the Humana healthcare plan within the Green River District. Employees from Public Schools, Governmental Offices, Kentucky Highway Department, Kentucky State Police, Audubon Area Agency and of course our Public Health Departments were offered this new service.

Anita Owens, RN and her Team: Sue Ellen Holladay, RN, Andrea Lancaster-Abell, RN, Erica Schmied, RN, Laura Lindsey, Billing Supervisor, Judy Payne, RN, and Carole Roberts, Account Clerk, have successfully reached their goal of one thousand screenings to Humana members by the end of the fiscal year.

Congratulations to the HUMANA VITALITY TEAM for your hard work and tenacity in meeting your goal and for the service you are providing. -Submitted by Connie Nalley

News from the I.S. Department

GRDHD will be upgrading to Microsoft Office 2013 over the next couple of months. The links below are video tutorials to give you a brief overview of the new Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Once you are on the website, you will see tutorials for any additional Office software you might use. Other training resources will be provided as we move closer to getting the software installed for everyone. Installation will be coordinated with supervisors.

Because Microsoft is no longer supporting the Windows XP operating system as of April 8, we are also replacing any computer that uses XP; they will be replaced with computers that run on Windows 7. Windows 7 is very similar to XP in looks and operation. Another link to a brief video explaining some of the differences between the two is listed below. Other resources will be made available upon request. Please call the I.S. department with any questions or concerns regarding these changes.

http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/training/
http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows7/help/getting-started#T1=tab01

-David Hunter
2014 Annual Training Plan—Required for ALL STAFF

ALL STAFF must complete the 2014 Annual Training Plan through Kentucky Train. This training plan will consist of 13 courses that include mandated training for OSHA, Civil Rights, Preparedness, etc. Staff will have two months to complete these courses, with a required completion date of June 20, 2014.

To meet our training requirements, all staff must have all 13 courses with a completion of April-June 2014, even if you have taken that course in the past.

As the deadline nears, I will be notifying supervisors of their staff who still need to get their courses completed.

To begin your training plan you will log into your KY Train Account, under your Dashboard you will click on My Training Plans, and there you will see “Green River DHD Annual Employee Training 2014.” You will click on this and it will then take you to a page that lists the 13 courses you are required to take. To begin a course you just click on the title. Please contact the HR department if you have any further questions.

Travel Request Process Changing Soon

Next month, we will be changing how travel requests are submitted. You will receive more information and step by step instructions when the new process is finalized, but here are the main changes:

1. STAFF complete the Request to Travel form (located on the official documents drive) and email to your supervisor. This is a Word form – you may type your signature because the email serves as signature authentication.
2. SUPERVISOR – type your name on the request to approve the travel. Submit the request to the Receptionist category of the Ticket System. You must attach the Request to Travel form and copy (cc) the traveler on the ticket.
3. Both the traveler and supervisor will receive status updates and travel confirmation through the ticket system as the request is processed.

Please note, all requests to travel must be submitted through the “Receptionist” category of the ticket system at least 2 weeks prior to travel date.

Accreditation Status

On Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 7:55 p.m. Green River District Health Department successfully submitted documentation to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) for accreditation consideration.

The “button” was pressed by Public Health Director, Deborah Fillman, during the District Board of Health Meeting. Over the next few weeks, PHAB will review the documentation for conformity to the standards and measures and schedule a site visit.

Thanks to all of you who have helped along the way!
What is Coordinated School Health all about?

There are 8 components in the process of the CDC’s Coordinated School Health (CSH): these are health education, physical education, health services, nutrition services, counseling, psychological, and social services, safe and healthy school environment and health promotion for staff.

Schools have a tremendous amount of time with our children. For 6 hours a day from the ages of 5 to 17 there are opportunities to teach students along with the usual math, science, and history their healthy habits for a lifetime. Schools play a vital role in improving students’ health and academic success is strongly linked to their health. Some of the goals of CSH are to increase health knowledge, attitudes and skills, increase positive health behaviors and health outcomes, and to improve education as well as social outcomes.

In order to meet these goals there are 8 strategies to improve school health policies and programs.

1. Secure and maintain administrative support and commitment.
2. Establish a school health council or team.
3. Identify a school health coordinator.
4. Develop a plan.
5. Implement multiple strategies through multiple components.
6. Focus on students.
7. Address priority health-enhancing and health-risk behaviors
8. Provide professional development for staff.

The state of KY now has SHAPE which is School Health and Physical Education Network. This team consists of Department of Education with Jamie Sparks, Stephanie Bunge and Todd Davis and the Department of Public Health with Victoria Greenwell. They are working with many school districts and health departments across the state to work together to give a comprehensive approach to promote healthy schools. Green River District is currently working with Henderson and Daviess county school districts on helping them develop policies and programs to promote healthy behaviors for students and staff.

Reference www.cdd.gov/healthyyouth/cshp/schools.htm

-Submitted by Anita Owens

Did You Know?

Mother’s Day was first observed in Henderson, KY by teacher Mary S. Wilson on May 5th, 1887. Mary didn’t live to see her little celebration become a national holiday in 1916. Sadly, she died giving birth.
HEALTHY GARDENING FOR SPRING-TIME

When I think of the spring-time I think of gardens. There are so many food options to choose from, whether it is fruits, vegetables, or even herbs. During the springtime gardening is an excellent way to get outside and exercise. In addition to the benefit of exercising, the kids can get involve and help plant and care for the garden. Even if the garden you plant is small, it will provide a great way for the entire family to spend time together and get involved at mealtimes. Local farmer’s markets can be a great way to add fresh fruits and vegetables to your diet during the spring and summer months if you choose not to grow a garden. Below is more information on fruit, vegetable, and herb gardens.

**Fruit and Vegetable Gardens:**

Fruits and vegetables provide many health benefits. Families can have fun spending time together by planting and growing a fruit/vegetable garden. Many fruits and vegetables grow well during the spring and summer months so get the family together and decide what fruits/vegetables to plant in your garden. Learning where foods come from will encourage children to try new fruits and vegetables and be more engaged in mealtime cooking.

**Herb Gardens:**

Planting an herb garden is a great way to add creativity to cooking. Adding different herbs to dishes will provide additional flavoring to food and can reduce the use of salt as a seasoning. When preparing to plant an herb garden make sure the herb that you are planting has enough sunlight, room to grow, good drainage, and is close to the kitchen so it can be used when cooking.

Some of the common herbs grown in the spring-time include basil, parsley, sweet marjoram, oregano, thyme, mint, sage, and rosemary.

-Submitted by Stephanie Johnson

Congratulations to Angel Hearrin from Providence Elementary School in Webster County. Angel was chosen from a random drawing of all the entries in the contest featured in the last issue of the Gazette.

Also, a big CONGRATS to the Ohio County staff for all their entries. The committee sent a “pot of gold” their way for winning the “most entries” contest. Thank you to all staff that entered. We appreciate our readers!

See page 8 of this issue for your chance to win!
April 30, 2014

The 2014 NACCHO Preparedness Summit located in Atlanta Georgia April 1-4, 2014 was a wonderful week. The Preparedness Summit provided a venue that exposed me to current information, contacts, and practical tools to enhance my capability to plan, prepare, and recover from disasters and other public health emergencies.

Each day had a carefully crafted agenda to address a variety of issues. Opening session on day one began with our keynote speaker, Sheri Fink, MD, PhD. She discussed her latest book, “Five Days at Memorial: Life and Death in a Storm Ravaged Hospital: This was her investigation on how these professionals dealt with issues of preparedness following Hurricane Katrina. She set the tone for a great week. Each day was full of learning and work sessions following the early morning opening discussions of selected panelists from the CDC, FEMA, Division of National Healthcare Preparedness and many more.

The learning/work sessions involved many areas concerning healthcare capabilities to select from. I attended some of the following: (Too many to list all)

1. Social Media in Disasters: Real Life Experiences and how to build the tools you need on a budget.
2. Regional Collaboration, Minutes for Coordination.
3. Crisis Standards of Care.
4. Planning Tools to Advance Community Preparedness for Medical Surge.
5. Public Health in Action: Preparing for and Responding to Real Threats.

NACCHO did a great job identifying current priorities. The latest, obviously, deals with the downward trend of federal, state, and local preparedness funding. These declines have resulted in health departments faced with difficult decisions to eliminate critical preparedness activities. Jack Herman, Chair of the 2014 Preparedness Summit reminded us we all share a common mission to protect our communities in times of emergencies and disasters in spite of the fiscal challenge. I believe this conference gave me a better knowledge base to share with our regional coalition and enhance my work in public preparedness!

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeff Rascoe

GAZETTE CONTEST QUESTION

**QUESTION:** GRDHD uses a Ticket System for support in areas such as Maintenance and Information Systems. An added feature to the receptionist category, that will be mandatory in the near future, is what?

**HINT:** The answer is in this issue of the Green River Gazette.

Submit your answers to Shanni Jones for a chance to win a Subway Gift Card courtesy of the Gazette Committee! Deadline to enter is close of business on May 27th. Good luck!
TOP® Club Updates

Pictured above: The Ohio County High School TOP® class hosted a Middle School 101 fair at Southern Elementary. Southern Elementary students were given information that will assist them in their transition to middle school. Topics included: Alcohol/Tobacco Prevention, College and Career Readiness, Bullying, Intro to Middle School, Respect and Body Image.

Pictured above: Burns Middle School TOP® and College View TOP® clubs combined to be a ColorBlast zone during the ColorBlast on March 22, 2014 starting at Moreland Park.

Hundreds ran and walked—or were pushed—the 5K trek. Brilliant greens, blues, yellows, oranges and pinks were tossed in the air as the color settled on the participants.

One teen in the group said, “This is the most fun I’ve ever had!”

All monies raised at the event went to Buddy Ball, Puzzle Pieces, Team Karlie and Wendell Foster Campus. - Angela Woosley

Burns Middle School TOP® created and WON a contest sponsored by Wendell Foster Campus on the significance of NOT using the R Word. What is the R word? Retarded. It is often used to degrade or put someone down. Since its use is hurtful, we need not use it!

BMS TOP® club collaborated with the Children’s Exceptional Council and created a Star Wars themed bulletin board. The motto: Don’t use the R Word, its not the Jedi Way!

The contest winnings earned these teens an afternoon of bowling at Diamond Lanes South.

Congratulations to Burns Middle School!
Mary Sinnett and family appreciate all the cards, food, flowers and visitations during the death of our mother. May God bless and keep you now and always—Mary Sinnett and family

Regina Jones, Public Health Services Coordinator and her husband Scott welcomed Elijah Scott Jones on December 22, 2013. He weighed 2lbs 6oz and was 15” long. Elijah and his family are doing well. Congratulations Regina and Scott!

Who Am I?

I have worked for the Green River District for approximately 12 years. During this time I have worked in several different departments ~ everything from School Health to Clinic and even First Steps for a bit. Today, I work in District Office and have contact with numerous staff and clients on a daily basis. It makes for a busy day but that’s how I like it. And, I love the people I work with!

During my free time I enjoy reading. One of my favorite authors is Janet Evanovich. I like her books because she is hilarious! After all, laughter is the best medicine. I also enjoy the occasional Dean Koontz or James Patterson book—the murder mysteries always keep me guessing.

I also love listening to music, especially the soulful sounds of Adele. Music heals the soul!
My favorite restaurant is Red Lobster. The cheddar biscuits are to die for. No lie though, I love it all!

I have a cat named Precious. He is precious to me, and since I don’t have children he is my spoiled little baby. I think sometimes he thinks he is a dog because he will come running if you whistle. He has quite the rambunctious personality.

My favorite holiday is Halloween. I love seeing all the kids get dressed up in the cute costumes and seeing the excitement in their faces as they make their journey to get their candy. It brings back many great memories from my childhood.

I would like to be remembered for my happy go lucky attitude. Can you guess Who I am? (see page 11 for answer)
New Employees
Welcome to the GRDHD Team!

Pamula Miller
Janitor
Hancock County Health Center

Jillian Nall
Local Health Nurse II
Webster County HANDS

Alisa Stanley
Local Health Nurse II
Daviess County Health Center

Libby Hancock
Telephone Operator/Receptionist
District Office

Angela Onstott
Sr. Support Services Associate I
Daviess County Home Health

Heather Blair
Family Support Worker/Home Visitor
Ohio County HANDS

As a reminder, all GRDHD offices will be closed May 26th in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

All gave some... some gave all. Remember them this Memorial Day.

Saying Goodbye . . .
Robin Pierce, Henderson County HANDS
Athena Minor, Ohio County Health Center
Devon Hall, Henderson County HANDS
Nancy Wilson, District Office

I am Deandra Troutman from District Office

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All staff are encouraged to take the time to familiarize themselves with these new and revised policies and procedures. To access the complete list of Policies and Procedures, go to Employee Resources link on our website (you should have a quick link icon on your computer desktop) and scroll to the bottom of the page to access any of the Policies and Procedures you would like to review. Policies and Procedures can also be found on the official documents drive.

If you have any questions regarding any of the information please contact Rebecca Baird for further clarification.

- 01.04.01 Personal Appearance of Employees Procedure - This procedure had wording added to include tobacco and alcohol as items that are unacceptable on clothing.
- 01.04.05 Recording Devices in the Workplace Procedure - This procedure was updated to clarify types of recording that are unacceptable without permission. A form was also added for use with this procedure (see next item).
- 01.04.05.01 Authorization for Publication Form - This form is very similar to the form found in the HIPAA Manual, with minor revisions so that it can be used with employees as well as patients.
- 01.04.06 Workplace Safety and Security Procedure - This procedure was updated to reflect the changes in new labeling requirements under OSHA law.
- 02.03 Leave Provisions Procedure. This procedure has been updated to clarify “reasonable extension” under the Funeral/Bereavement Leave section.
- 03.10 Public Communications Procedure - This procedure was revised to clarify press releases with community partners.
- 09.08 WIC Scheduling and Case Management Procedure - This is a new procedure that provides guidelines on WIC scheduling with same day scheduling.
- 09.08.01 Notice of Same Day Scheduling Form - This is a new form to be used in conjunction with the WIC Scheduling and Case Management Procedure.
- 09.08.02 Initial Date of Contact Tracking Log - This is also a new form to be used in conjunction with the WIC Scheduling and Case Management Procedure.
- 10.02 Protection of Human Subjects and Surveillance Data Procedure. This is a new procedure that provides guidelines on compliance with applicable laws dealing with research subjects and personally identifiable information.

- Rebecca Baird