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June 2010

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Upcoming Meeting Dates & Locations

June

Supporting the Health Promoters Action Team

Thursday, 6
1:30-3:30pm
Sixteenth Street Parkway
Clinic
2906 S 20th St
Lower Level, Diabetes
Dept

Mental Health Action Team

Thursday, 17
9:00-10:30am
Center for Urban
Population Health
1020 N 12th St
Suite 4180

Immigration Action Team

Thursday, 24
5:30-7:00pm
CORE/EI Centro
611 W National Ave
Third Floor, Room 320

"Immigration Reform as a Health Issue" Forum was a Success

The MLHC held a forum on May 13th to discuss the effect of immigration policy on the health of our communities. The link between immigration and its effect on health is often overlooked. This forum added the perspective of health as a dimension to a topic dominated by economics and politics. With immigration reform now in the limelight, public interest shows the need for comprehensive immigration reform. This forum provided an opportunity for leadership of the Latino community to gather and discuss the local immigration environment, as well how immigration reform will affect us here in Milwaukee. With over 80 attendees, we were able to send a strong message to the community of our commitment to advocate for immigration reform through the lens of health. Thank you to all who participated!



Action Team Updates

Mental Health:

The Mental Health Action Team continues to take steps toward developing a Warmline in Spanish, a non-crisis support line run by para-professionals and health promoters. Deciding on a location, finding people to staff it, training those who will staff it, and marketing it are some of our current tasks. For more information about the Mental Health Action Team please contact Katherine Valentyn, katherine.valentyn@gmail.com.

Supporting the Health Promoters:

We continue to build professional development activities for the active health promoters, focusing on our event with Proyecto Salud's Community Health Promoters on Saturday, September 18th, 2010. We will be connecting agencies to health promoters, both practically (project-based) and theoretically (preparing agencies to mentor/support health promoters). Proyecto Salud staff continue to update the action team on other health promoter leadership and advocacy projects. If you would like more information about this Action Team or how to be involved, please email Joelisa Castillo, joelisa.castillo@sschc.org.

Immigration:

Instead of a regular meeting this month, the I-ACT held its first ever Know Your Rights training in collaboration with Emilio de Torre, ACLU; Sal Gomez, Milwaukee Public Theater; and Lupe Duenas, Grzeca Law Group. The training was well attended and focused on the do's and don'ts of dealing with police and ICE. It is the vision of these partners to continue to hold this training in order to prevent needless arrests in our community. To get involved in our work, please contact Raisa Koltun at rkoltun@gmail.com or (414) 384-2673 ex. 24.

Social Determinants of Health:

Virginia Zerpa-Uriona has set out to meet with professionals who expressed interest in this team. She wants to learn about their expectations for the group and share her vision with each individually. She hopes to turn to empowerment and community participation as major strategies for alleviating poverty and social exclusion in the Latino community which are root causes of health disparities. Creating a space for critical dialogue is a spring board for action. The community will identify clear issues they can address to impact their living conditions with justice and dignity. Virginia plans to hold the first meeting in June. If you are interested in joining this effort contact Virginia, virginia.zerpa-uriona@aurora.org

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