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Leadership Update *by Dixie Morgese*



Dear Community Partners,

Each time we complete another newsletter, I lament about how much we have been doing and how little time there is to talk about it and how little space there is in the four pages we have!

Since our last newsletter, we have been very focused on the implementation of Medicaid Managed Care in our service system and ensuring that despite the challenges it presents, ensuring that quality is not compromised and that families can still get the services they need – especially those at greatest risk.

This last year our infant mortality rates declined again and we want to make sure we can keep the trend going in the right direction. We held a press conference with many of our local partners and you can read the highlights on page 4. There is so much appreciation for our community partners who join in this mission to help families grow and thrive!

I hope you can join us on February 6th for our Annual Meeting!! We will be honoring several of our heroes including Dr. Bonnie Sorensen and Dr. Wil Blechman. It will be a lunch engagement and we are still finalizing negotiations on a venue, so check our website for the location. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely, Dixie L. Morgese, Executive Director

Strengthening Families/Protective Factors/Café Dialogue Training Update *by Maria Long*



Maria Long, HS Family Support Services Director and Corey Best, Parent HS Parent Engagement Specialist and PYRAMID Community Café Parent Leader, provided Strengthening Families/Protective Factors/Café Dialogue Overview Trainings at Daytona State College (DSC) as a result of working closely with Amanda Lasecki through their Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) Program. The training sessions were well received. Maria and Corey will continue to work with DSC in the future to provide these trainings which are offered to students as well as organizations and families in the community. Strengthening Families/Protective Factors/Café Dialogue Training Overview is focused on providing information about the impact and importance of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), and the six (6) Protective

Factors: Parental Resilience, Social Connections, Knowledge of Parent and Child Development, Concrete Support in Times of Need, Social and Emotional Wellness of Children, and Nurturing and Attachment.

Contact Maria Long (386) 252-4277, ext. 316 or at maria.long@healthystartfv.org if you are interested in attending and/or providing these training opportunities to your organization.

Healthy Start Funders

Community Partnership for
Children
Florida Department of
Children and Families
Florida Department of Health
Healthy Families Florida
The Healthy Start MomCare
Network
The House Next Door
United Way of Volusia &
Flagler Counties
Volusia County, Children &
Families Advisory Board



Healthy Start Providers May 2014 – October 2014

Agape Midwifery Services
Healthy Communities
Janet Elliott—FIMR
Abstractor
Joan Hulett, RN—FIMR
Abstractor
Kandis Natoli—FIMR
Abstractor
Karen Edmondson, RN—
FIMR Abstractor
State of Florida, Dept. of
Health, Flagler County
Health Dept.
State of Florida, Dept. of
Health, Volusia County
Health Dept.
Stewart-Marchman-Act
Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

Recovery Month *by Maria Long*



Healthy Start and the PYRAMID Community Café were well represented by PYRAMID Community Café Counselor, Michael Kress, and Parent Leader, Kaye Ray, at the 22nd National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month Celebration which took place Saturday, September 27, at City Island Park, Daytona Beach. According to SAMHSA, Recovery Month promotes the societal benefits of prevention, treatment, and recovery for substance use and mental disorders, celebrates people in recovery, lauds the

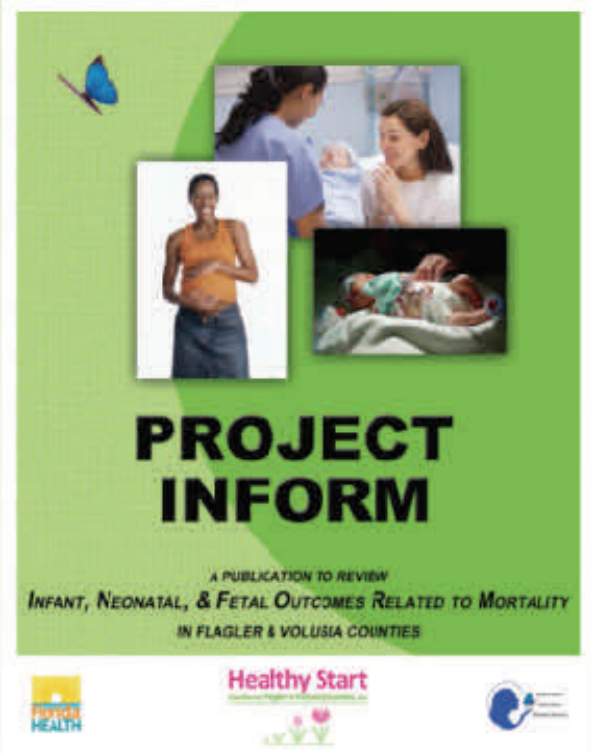
contributions of treatment and service providers, and promotes the message that recovery in all its forms is possible. Recovery Month spreads the positive message that behavioral health is essential to overall health, that prevention works, treatment is effective and people can and do recover. For more information go to

www.FloridaRecoveryMonth.com.

Now Available: Project INFORM Community Report *by Rosha Loach*

The Healthy Start Coalition of Flagler & Volusia's, Project INFORM Service Area Community Report, for calendar years 2010-2012, includes a summary of the following outcome data: state and local births; rates and service area trends for fetal, infant, neonatal, and post-neonatal mortality, low & very low birth weight; and FIMR data for primary cause of death, sleep related deaths, and contributing factors. Community Action Recommendations and Community Initiatives and Acknowledgements, from our local FIMR project, are presented as well.

Please visit our website at <http://www.healthystartfv.org/our-publications-library/> to download a copy or contact Rosha Loach, Healthy Start Program Manager, for a hard copy.



LifeSong: Our Legacy Is in Your Hands *by Maria Long*

The LifeSong Project: A Positive Faith Based Initiative to Reduce Infant Mortality in African American Communities Presentation – CityMatCH Conference, Phoenix, Az.



Dixie Morgese, HS Executive Director, Maria Long, HS Family Support Services Director and Rosha Loach, HS Program Manager presented the LifeSong Project (poster and oral presentation) during the CityMatCH Conference in Phoenix, Arizona during the week of September 15 – 19, 2014. LifeSong is an initiative that was jointly created by Healthy Start with members of the local African American Faith Based Community to:

- identify barriers to public awareness about health disparities;
- develop positive mechanism (dialogue, song, art, dance and narrative) to “inspire” and promote protective factors; and,
- provide tools and resources, such as safe sleep, folic acid, access to healthcare, and bereavement support for families who have lost an infant, to support

church ministries. The Healthy Start Coalition coordinates with clergy leaders to quantify the types of events that have been held, the number of congregants who attended, and the material that were disseminated. The LifeSong presentation is truly “one of a kind” as it truly speaks to the head, heart, mind and soul and lets us see that we can individually and collectively make a difference in the lives of our African American families.

Contact Maria Long (386) 252-4277, ext. 316 or at maria.long@healthystartfv.org if you are interested in learning more about LifeSong and its implementation within the African American Faith Based Community.

Healthy Start Board of Directors

Diane Smith

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Jennifer Morgan

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Daytona State College

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Daytona Beach
News-Journal

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OB/GYN Health Center

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Michele Goeb-Burkett

Florida Hospital Memorial
Medical Center

Pamela Carbiener, MD

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Patricia Kruse, DNP, CNM

Halifax OB/GYN Associates

Patrick Johnson

Flagler County Health Dept.

Ray Salazar

United Way

Steven R. Forsyth

5/3 Bank

**Zenesha Barkley, DNP, MSN,
RN, CNE**

Welcome New Staff! *by Katelyn Alley*



Noeme Maldonado

Our Healthy Families Volusia~Flagler Project welcomes Noeme Maldonado, Parent Educator.



Text4baby provides FREE text messages 3 times a week with info to help you through your pregnancy and baby's first year.

Text BABY (BEBE para Español) to 511411 to sign up!

text4baby.org



THANK YOU

We want to thank the Halifax Health Center for Women's & Infant Health for providing meeting space and lunch for our Substance Exposed Newborn Taskforce Committee meetings.

Thank you United Way Women's Initiative for providing funding for client transportation vouchers and safe sleep pack 'n play environments.

J. Kurtz generously donated diapers during the Daytona 500 race events. Thank you so much!

The Coalition sincerely thanks each of our Give Local 2014 donors and test-drive participants!



Press Conference: Local Leaders Convene to Address Infant Death in Our Community *by Rosha Loach*

The Healthy Start Coalition of Flagler & Volusia Counties held a press conference on October 14, 2014, at the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County in Daytona Beach, to convene local leaders to address infant death in Volusia and Flagler counties. Participants included media partners, consumers and community stakeholders. The following public information objectives were met:

- Increase community awareness about infant death and prevention
- Summarize data and show the gains we have made in reducing infant death
- Address racial disparities and the progress we have made – and what we can do better
- Hear firsthand accounts about the impact of infant loss and SIDS on the family and community
- Address unintended consequences of the Florida Medicaid Managed Care legislation on maternal and child health and what we are doing as a community to mitigate these consequences
- Communicate upcoming events

The press conference addressed fetal death, infant death, prematurity, low birth weight, and very low birth weight. Press Conference Speakers and topics included:

- **Bonnie Sorensen, MD, MBA**, Director, Florida Department of Health in Volusia County
- **Eric Raimundo**, speaking on behalf of Representative David Santiago, Florida House of Representatives
- **Diane Smith**, Board President, Healthy Start Coalition of Flagler & Volusia Counties
- **Dixie Morgese**, Executive Director, Healthy Start Coalition of Flagler & Volusia Counties
- **Lieutenant Paul W. Kammerer**, Volusia County Sheriff's Office
- **Pastor John T. Long III**, Pastor, Tubman-King Community Church, Community Liaison, VITAS Health Care
- **Crystal Hanson**
- **Charlene Melcher**, Director, Florida SIDS Alliance
- **Bonnie Wittman, RN**, Chair of March of Dimes for Volusia and Flagler County
- **Bonnie Wittman, RN**, Community Liaison for Halifax Health's Women's and Children's Services
- **Becky Vernon, RNC, BSN**, Director of Women & Children's Services, Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center
- **Steve Parris**, Healthy Communities, Safe Kids Coalition

Examples of news coverage from the press conference were seen in the News-Journal, Hometown News and WESH 2. For more information, please contact Rosha Loach, HS Program Manager, at 386-252-4277 or rosha.loach@healthystartfv.org.