

**The New Mexico
Diabetes Advisory Council
September 2, 2005
Minutes**

1. Welcome and Introductions – Yvonne Pepperzak-Blake

2. Approval of Minutes as reported for the meeting held June 3, 2005

3. DPCP Updates – Heidi Krapfl

Judith Gabriele was not able to attend the DAC meeting, so Heidi gave the following update:

- introduced Ann Anthony, the new evaluation lead with the Diabetes Program.
- announced that copies of the NM Diabetes Strategic Plan 2010 were available, and thanked Shanti Shanti Khalsa for all her efforts in guiding the development of the plan.
- talked about the Eagle books and how they were being distributed.
- mentioned that Patty Anello won an award from the APHA for the foot exam video she produced with Joseph Lopez.

4. Carol Marr, RD, Diabetes Educator, DPCP – The CATCH Program (Coordinated Approach to Child Health). CATCH is coordinated through school health programs and is designed to increase physical activity, improve dietary choices, and reduce the risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. The CATCH program involves the training of school staff, monitoring, and evaluation. Funding for CATCH in New Mexico includes tobacco settlement funds, foundation grants and state Diabetes Program general funds.

5. Sanjeev Arora, MD and Kathleen Colleran, MD, UNM Health Services – Project ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes).

The mission of project ECHO is to develop the capacity to safely and effectively treat chronic, common and complex diseases in rural and underserved areas and to monitor outcomes. This is a partnership between UNM's School of Medicine, the state health department, the department of corrections, and community providers. The ECHO project uses technology to interface with rural providers in weekly telemedicine clinics. Rural

providers present their patients and receive advice from a panel of experts at UNM, and can also earn CEUs for participating in the clinics. Initially developed to help rural providers with their Hepatitis C patients, the program is now poised to begin metabolic clinics that will include diabetes. The plan for the metabolic clinics is to identify interested sites in rural NM and to use the infrastructure developed by the Hepatitis C program.

6. Charm Lindblad, Executive Director, NMHCTOD – The Legislative Process. Charm covered the legislative process, and how to get a bill through the legislature. Her words of advice included deciding on the type of bill; keeping the bill language plain; working with the Department of Health and other Senate Sponsors; registering as a lobbyist at the Roundhouse and being prepared to address committee members. In addition, there is a need to check the committee schedule constantly and exercise a great deal of patience. Charm closed with what to do if the bill passes, and if it does not.

7. Jeremy Gleeson, MD, Lovelace and DAC Chair – Results of the Diabetes Strategic Plan. The purpose of the NM Diabetes Strategic Plan 2010 is to provide a guide for those working together to reduce the burden of diabetes in New Mexico. The development of the plan was spearheaded by the strategic plan action team and took seven months. The process was intended to be inclusive and based on priorities from the NM State Diabetes System Assessment (Oct. 2004). The plan has four major goals: to increase public awareness, to collaborate and coordinate, to provide legislative advocacy, and to act in an advisory role. To get involved in the plan implementation, visit the DPCP website (www.diabetesnm.org) and join an action team.

8. Lunch and CEU Session – Audrey Riffenburgh, MA, President, and Riffenburgh & Associates. “Are your diabetes education materials easy to read?” Understandable print resources are critical for people to meet the demands of life. Audrey discussed topics such as why people do not understand printed materials, how to measure literacy skills, the populations with limited literacy, and the best reading levels for a given audience. The presentation concluded with the issues that affect reading difficulty and some possible solutions for addressing these. The demographic groups at risk for diabetes are also those at risk for the lowest literacy skills.

The next DAC meeting will be held Friday December 2, 2005 from 9:00 am -1:00 pm at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque.