

2007-2008



ANNUAL REPORT

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Office of Women and Men's Health

Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services

Division of Public Health

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Introduction Letter

Women's health programs in Nebraska are showing results. For example, data from clients served through the WISEWOMAN Program indicate statistically significant improvements from baseline to one-year follow up in blood pressure, total cholesterol, and smoking. Efforts to reach minority women for breast cancer screening appear to have paid off in finding it at an earlier stage. Hispanic women 40-64 increased their proportion of in situ (cancer that has not spread) diagnoses for breast cancer from 15% during 1995-9 to 34% during 2000-4. Similarly, African American women have recorded substantial gains. Looking at in situ and localized invasive diagnoses together, the proportion of breast cancers diagnosed at these stages among African American women 40-64 increased from 57% during 1995-9 to over 70% during 2000-4.

The Office of Women's and Men's Health works with clinicians, organizations and members of the public throughout the state to improve the health of both women and men. Throughout the 2008 report, there are numerous references to partnerships. For example, the Colon Cancer Program is working with the Nebraska Medical Association, American Cancer Society, Nebraska C.A.R.E.S., several Cancer Centers, and the Husker Sports Network in a major colorectal cancer awareness campaign entitled *Stay in the Game*. The purpose is to increase enrollment in the Colon Cancer Program and to increase screening for all persons in Nebraska over the age of 50. Every Cancer Center in the state signed a letter of commitment to assist with treatment of colon cancers diagnosed through the program.

This year the WISEWOMAN Program, a component of Every Woman Matters, successfully competed for a new five-year grant. More than 100 letters of support were received from clinical providers who participate in the program. They affirmed, many times with anecdotes of women who have benefited from the program, that they are committed to preventive services and serving low-income uninsured women. Their letters expressed gratitude for the program and its effectiveness in encouraging women to receive preventive care when they otherwise would have gone without.

Many special activities occurred during the year to benefit women, men, and families. A total of 615 girls age 9-13 and adult women participated in a physical activity scorecard campaign provided by four local health departments with grants and technical assistance from the Office of Women's and Men's Health. Evaluation results showed significant increases for an entire year in the number of days per week they were physically active.

A data report was developed to show the status of men's health in Nebraska, a men's health website was created, and a grant on men's health was submitted to the National Institutes of Health. The fourteenth annual Women's Health Symposium was held, with 250 persons in attendance. Mother's and Father's Day walking campaigns were held throughout the state with pedometers and walking tips provided through partnerships with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska and Region VII of the Public Health Service.

We are grateful to the Governor and the Legislature for all their support. The Governor's Women's Health Advisory Council deserves much appreciation for their contributions to the health of Nebraska's families.

Submitted by,



Kathy Ward, Administrator of the Office of Women's and Men's Health

DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender & Age. According to the United States Census Bureau (2007), women represent 51 % of Nebraska's population. Women represent 58% of Nebraska's 65 and older population. These percentages reflect current U.S. population trends.¹ *The following table summarizes overall population:*

| Total Population | | 1,774,571 | |
|------------------|---------|-----------|--|
| 2007 | Women | Men | |
| | 895,180 | 879,391 | |
| By Age | | | |
| Under 18 years | 218,153 | 227,992 | |
| 18 to 44 | 315,406 | 331,045 | |
| 45 to 64 | 224,210 | 221,117 | |
| 65 and older | 137,411 | 99,237 | |

Race & Ethnicity. Compared to 2006, the racial and ethnic make-up of Nebraska remained virtually unchanged in 2007.¹ *The following two tables summarize race demographics:*

| Population By Race | | 2007 | | Percent of Population | | 2006 | 2007 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| | Women | Men | Nebraska Women | % | % | | |
| White* | 762,810 | 737,570 | White | 85.5 | 85.2 | | |
| Hispanic or Latino** | 61,505 | 72,327 | Hispanic or Latino | 6.7 | 6.9 | | |
| Black* | 37,628 | 37,386 | Black | 4.2 | 4.2 | | |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 15,388 | 15,155 | Asian/Pacific Islander | 1.7 | 1.7 | | |
| Native American* | 7,790 | 7,390 | Native American | .8 | .9 | | |
| Two or more races* | 10,059 | 9,563 | Two or more races | 1.1 | 1.1 | | |

* not of Hispanic ethnicity **includes all races

Education. The National Women's Law Center reports educational attainment for Nebraska women as follows: Nebraska's high school graduation rates rank 4th in the nation.² *The following table summarizes high school graduation rates:*

| Education Status | | 2007 | |
|---------------------------|-------|------|--|
| High School Completion | Women | U.S. | |
| | % | % | |
| All Women, All Races | 91.2 | 86.3 | |
| White-Non-Hispanic | 94.9 | | |
| Asian or Pacific Islander | 82.9 | | |
| Black or African American | 91.1 | | |
| Hispanic or Latina | 58.6 | | |

Marital Status. Of the 700,888 households in Nebraska, 371,052 (52.9%) are married couples. The U.S. Census Bureau (2006) estimates that 53.8% of Nebraska women are married. Marriage rates for women and men are highest among 35 to 54 year olds.³ *The following table summarizes marital status:*⁶

| Marital Status | | 2006 | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| | Women | Men | |
| Total Population 15+ Years | 711,685 | 689,040 | |
| Percent of Population | | | |
| Married | 55.3 | 57.7 | |
| Never Married | 23.9 | 31.0 | |
| Divorced | 10.5 | 9.0 | |
| Widowed | 10.3 | 2.3 | |

Residence. As of 2007, 70.3% of Nebraska women reside in urban areas, and 29.7% live in rural areas, according to the National Women's Law Center.

ECONOMIC STATUS

Poverty. The National Women's Law Center (2007) reports that 9.4% of all Nebraska women had incomes at or below federal poverty guidelines.² *The following table reflects distribution of poverty levels for Nebraska women by racial/ethnic background.*

| Poverty Status for Nebraska Families and Children ³ | | 2006 |
|--|--|------|
| Percent of Population | | |
| All Families | | 7.8 |
| w/related children under 18 | | 12.6 |
| Families w/ Female House Header | | 29.6 |
| w/related children under 5 | | 55.3 |
| w/related children under 18 | | 38.0 |

| Poverty Status for Nebraska Women | 2007 |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| | % |
| All U.S. Women | 12.6 |
| All Nebraska Women | 9.4 |

| Race/Ethnicity (NE only) | 2007 |
|---------------------------|------|
| White | 7.4 |
| Hispanic or Latino | 19.5 |
| Black or African American | 26.5 |
| Native American | 45.0 |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 7.5 |

economic status continued...

Earnings. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the median, annual full-time earnings for Nebraska women in 2006 were \$29,467 compared to \$37,828 for Nebraska men.³

| Women and Poverty: Distribution by Age ² | 2007 |
|---|-------|
| 18-44 | 13.4% |
| 45-64 | 3.7% |
| 65+ years | 9.1% |

Uninsured. In Nebraska, 13.5 % of non-elderly women were uninsured in 2007, (15.2% of men were uninsured). Nationally, 14.6% of non-elderly women were uninsured.⁸

MATERNAL HEALTH

Total Births: According to Nebraska DHHS provisional data, there were 26,723 live births in 2006.⁵

Age of Mother. Although Nebraska women today are having children later than earlier generations, the vast majority of all births still occur among women in their twenties. In 2005, women 20-29 accounted for 57.1% of all live births, compared to 32.75% for women 30-39, 8.3% for teenaged women, and 1.9% for women 40 and older.⁵

Birthweight. Nebraska's low birth weight (babies weighing less than 5 ½ pounds) rate for 2005 was 72.02 per 1,000 live births which is an increase from 69.3 in 2003. Nebraska's annual low birth weight has increased steadily since declining to an all-time low of 52.8 in 1990. Very Low Birth Weight (babies weighing less than 3.3 pounds) slightly increased in 2004, from 12.2 per 1,000 babies in 2003, to 14.34 in 2005.⁵

Unmarried Rates. In 2006 a total of 8,617 live births were recorded in Nebraska among unmarried women, up from 8,055 in 2005. The increase reflects a long-standing trend which has doubled in the last 20 years.⁵

The following tables detail prenatal care, live births by race and maternal age:

| Prenatal Care by First Trimester (of live births) | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Race/Ethnicity | NE (2005) ⁵ | U.S. (2004) ¹⁰ |
| White | 74.00% | 78.0% |
| Asian | 70.10% | 69.1% |
| Black | 62.39% | 58.9% |
| Hispanic | 55.43% | 56.5% |
| Native American | 33.41 | 58.7% |
| Total | 71.25% | 72.9% |

| NE Live Births by Race ⁵ | | 2006 |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------|
| White | | 79.7% |
| Black | | 6.5% |
| Native American | | 1.8% |
| Asian | | 11.6% |
| Other/Unknown | | .20% |
| Hispanic Origin (may be any race) | | 14.9% |

| No Prenatal Care | | |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | NE (2005) ⁵ | U.S.* (2004) ¹⁰ |
| All Races | 0.73 | 6.2 |

**care sought in 3rd trimester or not at all*

| NE Age of Mother /All Races 2005 ⁵ | |
|---|-------|
| Under 20 | 8.3% |
| 20-24 | 25.6% |
| 25-29 | 31.5% |
| 30 and Over | 34.6% |

MORTALITY

Life expectancies (2006) for Nebraska women and in the United States are described in the following two tables⁵:

| Life Expectancy for Women | 2006 |
|-----------------------------|------|
| | Age |
| United States, all races | 78.8 |
| White Women in Nebraska | 81 |
| Non-White Women in Nebraska | 74.5 |

| Leading Causes of Death for Nebraska Women | Number of Deaths |
|--|------------------|
| Heart Disease | 1,819 |
| Cancer | 1,587 |
| Cerebrovascular | 562 |
| Chronic Lung Disease | 389 |
| Alzheimer's | 350 |
| Accidents | 281 |
| Diabetes | 192 |
| Pneumonia | 224 |

CHRONIC DISEASE

Arthritis. Women in both Nebraska and the United States are more likely to be diagnosed with arthritis than men. In Nebraska, 30.8% of women report having arthritis, compared to 25.1% of men, in 2007.⁸

Asthma. In 2007, a higher percentage of Nebraska women currently have asthma (9.0%), compared to Nebraska men (7.1%).⁸

Diabetes⁸

| Adults who have ever been diagnosed with diabetes in 2007 | | |
|---|------|------|
| Yes | NE | U.S. |
| Men | 7.7% | 8.1% |
| Women | 6.5% | 7.9% |

Cholesterol⁸

| Adults who have ever been diagnosed with high cholesterol in 2007 | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| Yes | NE | U.S. |
| Men | 38.4% | 39.0% |
| Women | 34.9% | 35.7% |

Hypertension⁸

| Adults who have ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure in 2007 | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| Yes | NE | U.S. |
| Men | 27.1% | 28.1% |
| Female | 26.0% | 26.4% |

HIV and AIDS. In 2005 the rate of AIDS for Nebraska women was 1.91 per 100,000 women,* compared to 9.1 per 100,000 women in the United States.⁶ *The following table reflects reported cases of AIDS & HIV for the last 6 years.*

**Rates cannot be calculated for HIV because the number of HIV cases reported is incomplete and represents only the number of persons found to be HIV-infected by confidential HIV-antibody testing. These numbers do not include HIV-infected persons who have tested anonymously or who have not sought testing.*

| HIV/AIDS in Nebraska | pre 1998-2005 |
|----------------------|---------------|
| HIV | Totals |
| Women | 162 |
| Men | 451 |
| AIDS | Totals |
| Women | 223 |
| Men | 1171 |

Sexually Transmitted Diseases. In Nebraska, the incidence rate for Gonorrhea has increased from 77.9 (per 100,000 people) in 2004 to 97.0 (per 100,000) in 2006. This is a 23.7% change. Incidence rates for Chlamydia, Genital Herpes and Gonorrhea, continue to rise in Nebraska, but overall STD incidence rates remain low compared to the rest of the United States.⁷ *The following tables illustrate STD cases in Nebraska and United States.⁹*

| STD cases and rates per 100,000 by GENDER in 2006 | | | | | | |
|---|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|
| | Women | | | Men | | |
| | NE Cases | NE Rates | U.S. Rates | NE Cases | NE Rates | U.S. Rates |
| Chlamydia | 3,973 | 446.9 | 516 | 1,404 | 161.4 | 173 |
| Gonorrhea | 868 | 97 | 124 | 552 | 64 | 117 |
| Genital Herpes | 823 | 92.6 | NA | 199 | 22.9 | NA |
| | Women | | | Men | | |
| TOTAL NE Cases | 5,664 | | | 2,155 | | |

| NE Percent rate change from 05 - 06 | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | Total Cases | % Change |
| Chlamydia | 5,451 | +6.7 |
| Gonorrhea | 1,441 | +23.7 |
| Genital Herpes | 1,042 | +5.0 |



BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTORS

Binge Drinking 2007

| NE Adults Binge drinkers (males having five or more drinks on one occasion, females having four or more drinks on one occasion) ⁸ | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | Yes | U.S. |
| Men | 23.4% | 21.2% |
| Women | 12.9% | 10.1% |

Fruits and Vegetables. In 2007, 28.6 % of Nebraska women, reported eating fruits and vegetables five or more times per day.⁸

Exercise

| NE Adults who report having participated in physical activity in the last month (2007) ⁸ | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| | Yes | U.S. |
| Men | 78.6% | 79.5% |
| Women | 77% | 75.5% |

Overweight/Obesity

| Adults who reported being overweight (2007) ⁸ | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| | Overweight (bmi 25-29.9) | U.S. | Obese (bmi 30.0-99.8) | U.S. |
| Women | 28.5% | 29.7% | 25.7% | 25.9% |
| Men | 47.8% | 43.1% | 27.3% | 27.2% |

Tobacco Use⁸

| 2006-NE Adults | Smoke everyday | Smoke some days | Former smoker | Never smoked |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Men | 17.1% | 6.2% | 27.2% | 49.5% |
| Women | 12.0% | 4.8% | 20.5 | 62.7% |

PREVENTION

Cancer Screening Prevalence. Health screenings can prevent disease or detect it in its earliest possible stages. Women in Nebraska report lower cancer screening rates compared to the rest of the nation.

Mammography. In 2006, 37 states ranked higher than Nebraska in the percentage of women 40+ who had a mammogram within the past two years.⁸ *The following table illustrates mammography rates.*

| NE women aged 40+ who have had a mammogram within the past two years, 2006 | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Yes | U.S. | No | U.S. |
| 73.3% | 76.5% | 26.7% | 23.5% |

Pap Smears. In 2006, 81.6% of Nebraska women 18+ received Pap smears within the past three years, ranking Nebraska 42nd in the nation for testing percentages.⁸ *The following table illustrates test rates.*

| NE women aged 18+ who have had a pap test within the past three years | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| Yes | U.S. | No | U.S. |
| 81.6% | 84.0% | 18.4% | 16.0% |

Oral Health

| NE adults who visited the dentist or dental clinic within the past year for any reason, 2006 | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| | Yes | No |
| Male | 70.6% | 29.4% |
| Female | 74.5% | 25.5% |

Sigmoidoscopy/Colonoscopy. Nebraska's screening rates have increased since 2004 from 46.2 percent to 51.4%, placing Nebraska 48th for colon cancer screening. *The following table illustrates screening prevalence by gender.*⁸

| NE Adults aged 50+ who have ever had a sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, 2006 | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| | Yes | U.S. |
| Male | 49.3% | 56.8% |
| Female | 53.2% | 57.8% |

Blood Stool Tests. Nebraska is ranked much higher in this category compared to other states, ranking 12th of all states in the percentage of adults age 50+ who have had a blood stool test within the past two years.⁸

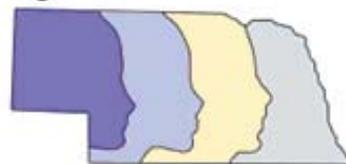
PROGRAMS

Every Woman Matters

Every Woman Matters (EWM) is a federally funded program that provides a variety of preventive health services for medically underserved women, primarily between the ages of 40 and 64. The program began 17 years ago with a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for breast and cervical cancer screening. Nebraska was one of the first twelve participating states in the Early Detection of Breast and Cervical Cancer Program. Today, all 50 states, 9 tribal organizations and several U.S. territories are funded for breast and cervical cancer screening through CDC. Program functions include screening and diagnostic tests, public education, professional education, surveillance, evaluation and quality assurance. Over eight hundred health care clinics/offices, mammography facilities, and laboratories provide services for Every Woman Matters. The WISEWOMAN Program, described in a following section, was added to Every Woman Matters in 2001, to provide cardiovascular and diabetes prevention and risk factor detection services for clients.

Nebraska's WISEWOMAN Program was one of the first twelve to be funded and one of twenty-one to be selected under a new competitive grant process in 2008. The newest addition to EWM services is colon cancer screening. Nebraska received one of five demonstration grants to be funded in 2005 by CDC. This was the first of the grants in the Office of Women's and Men's Health to provide services for men as well as women.

Every Woman Matters



The Nebraska Colon Cancer Program recruits participants through the Every Woman Matters Program, but it has a separate identity. Men and women who qualify by income and age are recruited for colon cancer screening, regardless of whether they have a connection to the Every Woman Matters Program. The Colon Cancer Screening section of this report provides additional information on the program and its progress.

Program Highlights

Every Woman Matters now has 800 clinical service sites. Approximately 95% of primary care providers in Nebraska participate in the program. This includes 100% of all hospitals and laboratories in the state, numerous private clinics and providers, all Community Health Centers, family planning agencies, and the two local health departments that provide screening services.

Since its inception, EWM has screened 64,567 women and diagnosed 709 breast cancers and 50 invasive cervical cancers.

During this fiscal period, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program has screened 12,797 individual women, of which 51% are at or below 100% of the Federal poverty guidelines.

In the last calendar year 76% of women enrolled had no insurance or health coverage, compared to a state rate of 13.5% uninsured. Approximately 30% were non-white and 22% Hispanic, compared to Nebraska's population of 85% white non-Hispanic.

The program has performed 7,934 screening mammograms, 8,897 pap smears and 10,916 clinical breast exams this year. Nebraska's EWM program has the highest breast and cervical re-screening rates in the country.

Nebraska's Breast and Cervical Cancer Program was one of only 16 in the nation to receive an increase in funding from the FY 07-08 competitive application process, based on performance-based budgeting.

Every Woman Matters received a grant of \$164,564 from the Susan G. Komen Foundation to assist with reimbursement for diagnostic screening services for women under the age of 40 and to assist in reimbursement for breast biopsy hospital fees. The Susan G. Komen Foundation has provided grants to Every Woman Matters for 14 years.

Every Woman Matters has received a grant award from the American Cancer Society for \$125,000 for each of the last four years to be used for mammography.

EWM continued...

The Every Woman Matters Advisory Council held a benefit in April 2008 to raise funds for treatment for clients not covered by the Medicaid Treatment Program. Senators and former Senators DiAnna Schimek, Don Pederson, Vickie McDonald, Carol Hudkins and former Governor Johanns were honored for their contributions to women's health and cancer control. More than \$4,000 was raised.

Every Woman Matters (EWM) was one of five programs to be recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for outstanding success and support of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection program. Sixty-seven programs nationwide submitted overviews of their achievements. An excerpt from the EWM abstract reads: Through integration, collaboration and sharing of resources, the EWM program delivers the most comprehensive public health care available, targeting women 40 to 64 years of age who are uninsured or underinsured. The program assists women in obtaining preventive, diagnostic and treatment services for breast and cervical cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and colorectal cancer, providing education and opportunities for lifestyle behavior changes.

Data from Nebraska's Cancer Registry suggest that efforts to reach minority women for screening have paid off in terms of finding breast cancer at an earlier stage when it is most treatable. Although based on relatively small numbers, Hispanic women 40-64 increased their proportion of in situ diagnoses for breast cancer from 15% during 1995-9 to 34% during 2000. Similarly, African American women have recorded substantial gains. Looking at in situ and localized invasive diagnoses together, the proportion of breast cancers diagnosed at these stages among African American women 40-64 increased from 57% during 1995-9 to over 70% during 2000-4. The latter figure actually exceeded the figure (69%) recorded among white women of the same age who were diagnosed during the same years. Among all Nebraska women 40-64 years of age, the proportion of all breast cancers diagnosed at the in situ stage rose from about 15% in 1995-6 to over 23% in 2003-4.

Every Woman Matters began screening women in the 18-39 age group under the State Pap Program. This program resulted from State General Funds appropriated under LB 321 (2007) Section 107. Women found to have abnormal screening results are enrolled in the Federal program funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

An annual survey was mailed to 84 Nebraska mammography facilities in Nebraska to determine mammography utilization during the calendar year of 2007, as well as the training needs of mammography technologists. Sixty-four questionnaires were completed and returned from these facilities, for a response rate of 76.2%. Among the findings were that the average mammography charge is now \$192, with ranges from \$123 to \$379. When asked about waiting times for a client to receive a screening mammography appointment, 67.2% of facilities said it is less than one week. An increasing percentage (17.2%) offer clients the option to wait at the facility to receive mammogram results.

Through a process with the Department of Administrative Services new contracts were awarded for case management services, outreach/recall, and comprehensive lifestyle intervention management services for all regions across the state. A quality assurance plan has been developed to evaluate the Regional case managers. Performance indicators and random review of data entry are used to determine timeliness and accuracy. Data matching is completed each year between the Nebraska Cancer Registry and the Every Woman Matters database.

WISEWOMAN

Since the addition of the WISEWOMAN (Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for Women Across the Nation) grant in 2001, the EWM Program has been providing clients with a comprehensive array of prevention and screening services. These services address chronic disease risk factors such as elevated cholesterol, high blood pressure, obesity, sedentary lifestyle, diabetes, and smoking. The WISEWOMAN program provides screening for cardiovascular disease and diabetes and provides intervention, referral and follow-up as appropriate. Like the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, it is aimed



WISEWOMEN continued...

at low-income uninsured or underinsured women from ages 40 through 64. Special attention is given to populations of women at higher risk for cardiovascular disease—Black, Hispanic, and Native American women.

Program Highlights

This year the national WISEWOMAN Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a Request for Applications, requiring all current programs to compete for funds. The competition was open to current and potential new grantees. Nebraska's program successfully competed for funding. Nationally there are now 21 states and tribal organizations funded through WISEWOMAN, an increase from 14 previous grantees.

Since 2002, the WISEWOMAN grant has screened 17,326 women, diagnosed 1,808 new cases of hypertension, 1,516 new cases of high cholesterol, and 350 new cases of diabetes. Nebraska's WISEWOMAN program has screened and re-screened more women than any other state in the nation, including those with much larger populations.

A Medication Access Brochure has been developed for clients, with the assistance of the Medical Advisory Committee. The brochure describes retail outlets with low-cost medication programs; the Together Rx Access Card; and the Partnership for Prescription Assistance, which gives access to more than 475 patient assistance programs.

Colon Cancer Screening Program

Nebraska's Colon Cancer Screening Program is funded by one of five demonstration grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Of those five, Nebraska's program is screening the largest number of people and is the only one that is statewide. The demonstration grants were initially funded for three years, but CDC has provided an additional year of funding that will end in September of 2009. Nebraska's program is designed to address the state's high colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates and low rate of screening. A partnership with Nebraska C.A.R.E.S. administered by DHHS' Comprehensive Cancer Program, has actively promoted screening through many venues.



Program Highlights

The Colon Cancer Screening Program has screened 1,300 persons, detecting three cancers and 57 precancers.

The experiences in Nebraska and the other demonstration programs are being used to develop models for a potential national program. Nebraska's Colon Cancer Screening Program has been included in four recent articles in editions of the journal, *Preventing Chronic Disease*. Titles are: Facilitators and challenges to start-up of the Colorectal Cancer Screening Demonstration Program. *Preventing Chronic Disease* 2008;5(2):A39; Start-up of the Colorectal Cancer Screening Demonstration Project. *Preventing Chronic Disease* 2008;5(2):A38; Development of a federally funded demonstration colorectal cancer screening program, *Preventing Chronic Disease* 2008;5(2):A64; and Cost of starting colorectal cancer screening programs: Results from five federally funded demonstration programs. *Preventing Chronic Disease* 2008;5(2):A47.

While funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) can be used for diagnosis, as well as for screening, the Program cannot spend CDC money for treatment. In order to address this situation, members of the Medical Advisory Committee assisted staff in securing commitments for assistance from Cancer Centers across the state. All thirteen of Nebraska's Cancer Centers have signed statements confirming their commitment, in accordance with their charity care policies, to assure treatment for persons diagnosed with cancer under this program. A "Best Practice" article on the 100% commitment of Nebraska's Cancer Centers was featured in the April 2008 newsletter of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

Colon Cancer continued...

The Colon Cancer Screening Program received a grant from Ayres Kahler for 50 hours of free marketing services.

Through partnerships with the Nebraska Medical Association, American Cancer Society, Nebraska C.A.R.E.S., several Cancer Centers, Husker Sports Network, and the Colon Cancer Screening Program, a major colorectal cancer awareness campaign entitled *Stay in the Game* has been launched. The purpose is to increase enrollment in the Colon Cancer Screening Program and increase screening for all persons in Nebraska over the age of 50. The campaign began with a kickoff at Memorial Stadium on August 7. Jerry Tagge, the quarterback who led Nebraska's football team to national titles in 1970 and 1971, is the campaign spokesperson, and ads will appear on statewide radio and tv and on Husker Vision at the games.

Former running back and Heisman Trophy winner, Johnny "the Jet" Rodgers is the featured star of a gas pump topper campaign in North Omaha urging people to be screened for colorectal cancer.



Johnny Rodgers and Jerry Tagge

TV and radio spots encouraging colon cancer screening were also developed with Doc Sadler, Husker Basketball Coach, in collaboration with the Men's Health Section of the Nebraska Medical Association.

Colon Cancer Program staff attended Husker Harvest Days and distributed 200-300 enrollment forms each day. Staff also had a State Fair booth.

The State Barber Commission placed an article in their newsletter to all licensed shops describing the Colon Cancer Program and what barbers can do to encourage screening.

Ads and/or editorial content were placed in the Cornhusker Family Physician publications and in media for the lay public including the Star-Herald's "Beef Month" edition reaching 60,000 western Nebraska residents, the Omaha Star Publications, and the Omaha World Herald.

The program partnered with the American Cancer Society to do a direct mailing to African American North Omaha residents.

The Colon Cancer Program exhibited at the Black Family Health and Wellness Event in Omaha, the Super Colon Event in Kearney, the Nebraska State Employees Health Fair, and the Loup Basin Public Health Department Health Fair in Burwell.

EDUCATION

Public Education

The Public Education component of EWM/OWMH researches, develops and disseminates public health information and education.

Program Highlights

Over 4,000 "Be A WiseWoman- Get Heart Smart" self-study healthy lifestyle intervention materials were distributed to eligible clients. During this same time, more than 500 clients received information regarding tobacco cessation, arthritis and other health related topics as requested. Partnership efforts with the Tobacco Free Nebraska Program continue, and 24 Quitline Fax Referral forms have been sent to the American Cancer Society at the request of the client for cessation counseling.

Public Education continued...

During this same time period, more than 8,000 letters were sent to clients eligible for participation in intervention activities. The letters highlight the no-cost educational opportunities available to them for improved heart health and notification that a Program Interventionist will be contacting them. Clients begin and complete the intervention management process generally within four months of the receipt of this letter.

Nebraska's Lifestyle Interventions have been included in CDC sponsored best practices research and findings dissemination.

Every Woman Matters clients, identified as having a Body Mass Index (BMI) over 40 were provided with the educational booklet, *Embrace your Health*. Survey results indicated that the booklet was well received, with over 15% of the clients receiving the booklet responding to the survey. A Spanish component was also sent to those clients preferring Spanish materials. Approximately 2,000 women in the program have BMI's that exceed 40.



Every Woman Matters staff were "Cure Leaders" providing education on breast cancer at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on October 7, 2007. Staff also participated in the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk on October 14.

The EWM client newsletter "Healthy Days...Healthy Ways" has been published three times and released to approximately 20,000 clients statewide.

A "Take Time for Yourself" video created by the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department with an Every Woman Matters grant was distributed to approximately 500 EWM provider sites across the state. The video depicts information in three languages on Every Woman Matters enrollment and services.

A physical activity campaign entitled Bright Futures for Nebraska Women and Girls funded project sites through Panhandle Public Health District, North Central Health Department/Loup Basin Public Health District, and Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. These campaigns featured physical activity scorecards and community activities to increase physical activity for girls 9-13 and adult women in their lives. A total of 615 women and girls participated in four projects.

1. M Power 3 – Movement, Music, and More
(Counties: Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Scotts Bluff and Sheridan)
2. Keep Score for a Bright Future
(Counties: Blaine, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Howard, Loup, Sherman, Valley and Wheeler)
3. Physical Activity: Get In2 It! (Lancaster County)
4. Keep Score for a Bright Future
(Counties: Antelope, Brown, Boyd, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, Knox and Pierce)

Evaluation methodology for this project was developed by the University of South Florida through a contract with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Evaluation results indicated significant increases from baseline to one-year follow up in the number of participants who were physically active five to seven days a week. Participant comments about what they enjoyed most about the project included: "getting to do things with my daughter", "the games and competition between my mom and me", "support of others", and "getting active and having fun."

Professional Education

The Professional Education component of Every Woman Matters continued to be active in providing educational opportunities to clinical providers throughout the state in 2006-2007.

Professional Education continued...

Program Highlights

The Every Woman Matters (EWM) biannual provider conferences were completed in the fall with six regional conferences offering 3.3 continuing education hours in six cities. The presentations for the 335 participants were "The Prevention & Early Detection of Colorectal Cancer: Screening for Life" by Alan Thorson, MD, colon and rectal surgeon; "The #1 Killer of Women: Your Role in Reducing the Burden of CVD in NE" by William Minier, MD, BlueCross Blue Shield of NE; and "Status of Breast Cancer in NE: How Your Clinic Can Make a Difference" by a panel with EWM program director, Melissa Leypoldt and representatives from Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the American Cancer Society.

EWM and the Nebraska Colon Cancer Program (NCCP) sponsored two speakers at the NE Academy of Family Physicians' conference in Nebraska City in November. James Early, MD, Director of Clinical Preventive Medicine at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita spoke on "Behavioral Management of Lifestyle Related Chronic Diseases." Alan Thorson, MD, Colon & Rectal Surgery, Inc., Omaha gave a presentation on "Colon Cancer: How Can We Eliminate It in the Next Generation?"

The videotape "Providing Effective Healthcare for a Diverse Population" developed for EWM by Valda Ford, MPH, MS, RN continues to be offered through the Olson Center for Women's Health. Continuing education is available at no cost to nurses from facilities that provide EWM services. The presentation is available via web or by request for on-site viewing.

The EWM program, along with its partners, the Nebraska Medical Association and CIMRO of Nebraska (Medicare quality improvement organization) continue to provide the most recent edition of Straight Talk About Breast Cancer to Nebraska women who have been newly diagnosed with breast cancer. In collaboration with its partners, EWM secures external funding for clinics and physicians to order Straight Talk at no charge to their patients.

Every Woman Matters (EWM) coordinated a Clinical Breast Examination (CBE) workshop at both the annual state Nurse Practitioners Primary Care conference in Lincoln in February and the annual state Academy of Physician Assistants conference in Kearney in April. Marilyn Kile, APRN, AOCN from the Cancer Center at Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney led the 3-hour workshop. The session included practice with silicone breast models as well as live models.

EWM sponsored a presentation on "HPV – 2008" at the NE Academy of Family Physicians annual meeting in Omaha in March. Don Gibbens, MD, OB/GYN from Lincoln was the speaker.

The NE Society of Radiologic Technologists annual state conference was held in Omaha in April. EWM sponsored Andrea Pavlan Harley, RT from Fort Myers, Florida who offered 6 hours of continuing education for mammography technologists.

Provider newsletters were sent to medical professionals in more than 750 facilities. EWM purchased educational CD-ROMs, titled "Enhancing Diagnostic Skills in Gynecologic Cytology" by Barbara D. Benstein, PhD., SCT (ASCP). It was distributed to the 25 laboratories that offer cytology services for EWM for pathologists and cytotechnologists to view.

The program sent information to clinics that participate in EWM promoting the online continuing education program, developed by CDC, called "Follow Up of Abnormal Clinical and Imaging Findings of the Breast: Five Self-Study Modules for Primary Care Clinicians". Nurses and clinicians were informed that the self-study was available on Medscape for 5.75 CME and nursing contact hours at no cost.

An annual survey was mailed to 84 Nebraska mammography facilities in Nebraska to determine mammography utilization during the calendar year of 2007, as well as the training needs of mammography technologists. Sixty-four questionnaires were completed and returned from these facilities, for a response rate of 76.2%.

Professional Education continued...

Victoria Schwab received the Helping Hands Award from the Nebraska Nurse Practitioners Association at their state conference in February. The award was a recognition of all that Victoria has done in helping plan conferences; suggest topics; and arrange speakers and workshops, such as the Clinical Breast Exam workshops.

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS/HEALTHY WEIGHTS GRANT

In 2007, the Office of Women's Health received a three-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to address nutrition and physical activity for Hispanic and African American women. That grant is a partnership with the Blue Valley Community Action Partnership, the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Center for Reducing Health Disparities, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Program, and several programs within the Department of Health and Human Services. The grant seeks to positively impact healthy lifestyle knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors for underserved populations. In this funding cycle, a total of only five grants were funded, including Nebraska's, from 262 applications that were submitted. The grant award is \$146,000 for each of the three years.

The Crete project focuses on Hispanic women and their families, while the Omaha project primarily serves African American women. Both feature physical activity, nutrition, and wellness classes designed in conjunction with the participants; baseline and post-intervention screening of clinical measures such as height, weight, blood pressure, body mass index, and cholesterol; and support for the women and their families as they make lifestyle changes.

Both project sites have completed one series of twelve-week classes and have begun the second. Over 50 women have attended. The sites have also developed advisory boards to identify issues that create barriers to healthy behaviors and to develop strategies to address them. Evaluation is conducted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Program. The first session evaluation showed mixed results from baseline to the end of the session. There were no changes or negative changes in average weight, Body Mass Index, and blood sugar; but there were improvements in waist circumference, total cholesterol, and HDL (good cholesterol). There were significant improvements in frequency of physical activity.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Office of Women's and Men's Health responds to numerous requests for information from organizations and individuals across the state. The Office also responds to requests for speakers as time permits and takes exhibits to various conferences.

Program Highlights

Office of Women's and Men's Health staff gave presentations for the Northeast United Church of Christ's Women's Fellowship, the Women in Agriculture Conference in Kearney, University of Nebraska at Lincoln students from China and visiting scholars from Vietnam, and the Lifespan Health Conference in Kearney. Kathy Ward appeared on a radio show "Fit Happens" on KKAR. Melissa Leypoldt did an interview on Every Woman Matters with KZEM Radio in Columbus.

In partnership with the Nebraska Medical Association, the Office also coordinates a speakers' bureau with volunteer physicians. A total of 10 physicians have been recruited to speak on a variety of topics.

The OWMH utilized the volunteer program during the last fiscal year, recruiting nine volunteers who put in a combined total of 207 service hours. The volunteers consisted primarily of college students working on non-paid internships, one high school student and two adults from the community. The interns assisted in development of the volunteer program in the Office of Women's and Men's Health, worked on crafting a patient navigation system for the Every Woman Matters Program, and helped in creating a client survey project. Other volunteers provided general office support. The volunteer program continues to be an essential aspect of OWMH.

The Heart Truth. The Office of Women's and Men's Health, in collaboration with the Nebraska Cardiovascular Health Program sponsored events related to women and heart disease in February. On February 1, National Wear Red Day, The Office of Women's & Men's Health gave away red dress pins, provided by Region VII of the Public Health Service, and heart health handbooks in Lincoln's State Office Building to approximately 150 people. On February 27, the Office sponsored a presentation on Mindless Eating, *Why We Eat More Than We Think* by Alice Henneman, MS, RD. Ms. Henneman is an Extension Educator with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. A total of 113 people attended the presentation.



Women's Health Symposium

Over 250 people attended the Fourteenth Women's Health Symposium on May 16 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Lincoln. Governor Dave Heineman gave the welcome and issued a proclamation for Women's Health Week. Senator DiAnna Schimek gave the luncheon address honoring the Women's Health Advisory Council, for fourteen years of providing a Women's Health Symposium, and accomplishments in women's health. The theme of the Symposium was "Celebrate You — Women Lead the Way." The speakers were:

- Dr. Wanda Jones, Director of the U.S. Office on Women's Health and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health; speaking on "Women's Health: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."
- Dr. Linda Burhansstipanov, Executive Director of Native American Cancer Research, a non-profit community-based corporation—doing a presentation entitled "Women's Health Jeopardy" that focused on Native American women;
- Victoria Almquist from the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, speaking on the marketing of tobacco products to girls and women;
- Dr. Carmen Tafolla--internationally acclaimed poet, author, speaker and performer—speaking on diversity;
- Kim Beyers-Nelson—certified Yoga therapist, artist, and writer, providing a lecture and experiential piece entitled, "The Five Bodies of Stress an integrative approach to stress management."



Governor Dave Heineman and Dr. Wanda Jones

- Other sponsors included the Nebraska Medical Association, the Rural Health Education Network, and the Area Health Education Centers.
- Alegent Health, Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, and BryanLGH provided screenings for osteoporosis, blood pressures, body composition, and heart disease risk factors.
- The traveling exhibit, Milestones in Public Health was displayed at the Symposium. Developed by the Association of Schools of Public Health and Pfizer, this exhibit highlights 11 public health milestones.

Website



The Office of Women's and Men's Health debuted the Nebraska Men's Health Website in 2008. With guidance from the Men's Health Task Force, the site offers a wealth of information pertinent to improving the lives of Nebraska men. The site includes research and data specific to men of various ages, ethnicities and risk groups. Links to outside health agencies, and other informational tools are also included on the site. Both the women's and men's health website have grown to include valuable resources such as:

- Current health and lifestyle statistics
- Media/Press kits
- National and local health campaigns and programming
- Grant opportunities
- Health Education Fact Sheets
- Quick links to popular content.
- Links and tools to help users effectively navigate DHHS

NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

The Administrator of the Office of Women's and Men's Health was chosen to serve on an Expert Feedback Group for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Consultation Certificate Program and was subsequently selected to co-facilitate their pilot training for Program Consultants.

Melissa Leypoldt and Michelle Heffelfinger gave presentations at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Cancer Conference in Atlanta on "Managing Cost Effectiveness of Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening" and on "Partnering/Integration of the Breast and Cervical Cancer and WISEWOMAN programs."

MEN'S HEALTH

Through formation of a Men's Health Task Force in the Department of Health and Human Services, collaboration with the Nebraska Medical Association's Men's Health Section, and coordination with the Colon Cancer Screening Program's efforts to recruit men, an active men's health program was developed. Activities included:



- Development of a data report on men's health in Nebraska.
- "Lunch and learns" on men's health in the State Office Building in Lincoln.
- A partnership with the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health to submit a grant application to the National Institutes of Health on Minority Men's Health. The proposed project will focus on colorectal cancer screening.
- Development of a men's health website.
- The *Stay in the Game* campaign with Husker Sports Network to increase colorectal cancer screening.
- A partnership with the Nebraska Medical Association for a series of men's health forums across the state.

PARTNERSHIPS

Medical Advisory Committee. The Every Woman Matters Program and Colon Cancer Screening Program receive consultation from a distinguished group of medical care providers. Specialties include cytology, radiology, general surgery, family practice, bone metabolism, obstetrics/gynecology, oncology, pathology, cardiology, endocrinology, internal medicine, rheumatology, gastroenterology, and colorectal surgery. Representation is provided for the following health professions: physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, dietitians, pharmacists, biostatisticians and epidemiologists, clinic nurses, radiological technicians, cytotechnologists, and social workers.

The Medical Advisory Committee, consisting of 55 members, meets annually, and utilizes listservs and conference calls to communicate between meetings and among subgroups. Subgroups were formed around the following topics: Cervical Cancer Issues, Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes, Colorectal Cancer Issues, and Breast Cancer Issues. Members of the Medical
status of women's health in nebraska

Advisory Committee are listed in Appendix Three.

The Every Woman Matters Medical Advisory Committee held its annual meeting on three different dates this year to accommodate the schedules of subgroup members. The meetings were on June 20 and 21 and July 18 at Mahoney State Park. Thirty-six members attended. Important issues included: quality assurance issues; breast MRI's; access to low-cost medications; feedback to providers on performance indicators; adoption of consensus guidelines on cervical cancer screening; and review of eligibility algorithms for the Colon Cancer Screening Program.

Collaborations With Other DHHS Programs. The Office of Women's and Men's Health and Comprehensive Cancer Control Program meet at least monthly to provide integration and collaboration of statewide partners on the Colon Cancer Screening Program.

In collaboration with the Nebraska Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, 600 Every Woman Matters clients with elevated blood glucose levels have

Partnerships continued...

received educational materials in either English or Spanish to encourage improved healthy living.

A partnership also continues with Tobacco Free Nebraska on a "fax referral" process to connect Every Woman Matters clients to the statewide quit line in a systematic fashion. Clients who request cessation materials are sent fax referral forms for their signature. The forms are faxed from EWM to the quitline so clients can be called and individual quit plans provided at no cost to the client.

Staff from the Office of Women's and Men's Health assisted in grant reviews for other DHHS Programs.

Women's Health Week. For the fourth year, the Office of Women's Health partnered with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska (BCBSNE) on a Mother's Day campaign to encourage walking. This year the partnership was also expanded to include a



Father's Day campaign. BCBSNE provided 500 pedometers. The Office of Women's and Men's Health responded to requests for 2,059 packets with the pedometers and walking tips from persons and organizations in 32 towns and cities throughout the state. The packets included Mother's Day and Father's Day cards encouraging walking.

The Region VII, Public Health Service, Women's Health Coordinator provided 1,000 pedometers to be made available to walking groups of 20 persons or

more who would agree to collect pre and post data, to enroll women in the national Office on Women's Health WOMAN Challenge, and to register their Women's Health Week events on the national Office's website. Seventeen organizations from fourteen communities received the pedometers and organized walking groups, including one in Lincoln for 60 Chinese women.

During Women's Health Week, the Office of Women's and Men's Health also promoted the WOMAN Challenge, an initiative of the U.S. Office on Women's Health. This was an eight-week national campaign to increase physical activity. Women and girls who registered for one of six different "virtual" walking courses across America were encouraged to walk 10,000 steps or get 30 minutes of moderate exercise every day. The Nebraska Office of Women's and Men's Health promoted the program through Local Health Departments, DHHS staff, and the walking packets described earlier. A total of 468 persons in Nebraska participated in the campaign.

Nebraska had 62 events registered for Women's Health Week on the national Office on Women's Health website <http://www.womenshealth.gov/whw/>.

May Campaign. For the 14th year the Office of Women's and Men's Health provided health education materials to church congregations across the state.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

National. The National Women's Health Information Center is a clearinghouse of information and resources. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health. The national Office on Women's Health has supplied educational materials and maintains an award-winning website on both women's and men's health at www.womenshealth.gov. An especially valuable service provided is Quick Health Data Online, which has readily accessible health, demographic, and access data. The data are provided at national, state, and regional levels and are available by gender, age, and race.

Regional. There are ten regions in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri are in Region VII. Each region has a Regional Women's Health Coordinator. Joyce Townser, Region VII's Women's Health Coordinator, is located in Kansas City, Missouri. Information on women's health issues, national trends, policy changes, promotional materials, and technical assistance is provided to each state.

WOMEN'S HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

2005-2008 Strategic Planning. The Women's Health Advisory Council developed strategic planning objectives in March of 2005. These objectives are coordinated with those of the Nebraska Women's Health Strategic Plan and specify the activities that will be performed by the Council. The Council is currently in the process of developing new priorities and objectives to guide their activities over the next three years. Priorities will address health disparities, behavioral health, workplace wellness, and a life course approach to health. Major objectives of the 2005-2008 plan are:

Increase awareness by consumers and providers of screening guidelines recommendations for medical, drug, alcohol, mental health, and domestic violence issues.

Increase compliance with screening guidelines recommendations by influencing insurers, employers, and legislators to cover the cost of screening for diabetes, cholesterol, and weight.

Reduce the incidence of chronic disease by disseminating approved body weight/BMI guidelines for practitioners, promoting proper nutrition for all ages, promoting breastfeeding, teaching parents proper nutrition and appropriate weight for children, and working with schools and employers to incorporate more physical activities.

Facilitate a statewide directory for community resources.

Develop an annual Nebraska Women's Report Card for publication.

A goal established by the Council in 2006 is to raise \$200,000 for Every Woman Matters so that the program can maintain existing levels of service and reach more women who are never or rarely screened.

Progress During 2008

- Screening guidelines developed in conjunction with the Women's Health Section of the Nebraska Medical Association continue to be disseminated.
- The Bright Futures for Nebraska Women initiative on physical activity for preteens, parents, and other adult women was conducted in the Panhandle, Northern Nebraska, and Lancaster County through grants to local health departments.
- Sessions in the 2008 Women's Health Symposium featured presentations and exhibits that addressed priorities.
- Existing statewide directories such as the 211 System, Partnership for Prescription Assistance Nebraska, and Answers for Families continue to be promoted through the web site and the Every Woman Matters Program. A Medication Access brochure was developed and disseminated.
- The Healthy Weights grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration focuses on nutrition, physical activity, and wellness for minority women and their families in two communities.
- A task force has developed data on a new women's health report card on violence against women, and is working with another coalition to coordinate its release.
- Education on maintaining a healthy weight was provided in cooperation with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Program.
- The Women's Health Week/Men's Health Week walking campaigns provided encouragement to over 3,000 persons to increase or maintain physical activity.
- Activities of Every Woman Matters, particularly the WISEWOMAN component, continue to address nutrition, physical activity, weight, and cardiovascular risk factor screening issues listed in the plan.

Advisory Council continued...

Legislation Monitored by the Women's Health Council

The Legislative Task Force of the Women's Health Council took positions on the following bills in the 2007 regular legislative session.

Supported

- LB 157--Safe Haven Act
- LB 795--Expand funding for community health centers for oral health
- LB 812--Violation of child safety restraint requirements made a primary offense
- LB 818--Increase Medicaid income eligibility for children and pregnant women
- LB 974--Income tax credit for health insurance
- LB 1075--Funds for Nebraska Regional Poison center
- LB 1092--Require seat belts on school buses
- LB 1169--Health care assistance for Iraq war vets
- LR 221--Study on stroke registry
- LB 807--Medicaid coverage of tobacco cessation counseling and treatment
- LB 836--Prohibit smoking when a child is in the vehicle
- LB 966--Increase money for tobacco prevention and control through the Tobacco Settlement Fund

Opposed

- LB 963--require verification of lawful presence in U.S. for public benefits

Neutral

- LB 951--Umbilical cord banking (provided input on the concept)

Letters regarding each of these bills were signed by the Chair of the Council and sent to members of the Legislature during the legislative session.

WOMEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE STATUTE 71-701 TO 71-707

"The Women's Health Initiative of Nebraska is created within the Department of Health and Human Services. The Women's Health Initiative of Nebraska shall strive to improve the health of women in Nebraska by fostering the development of a comprehensive system of coordinated services, policy development, advocacy, and education." Initiative Objectives:

- (1) Serve as a clearinghouse for information regarding women's health issues;
- (2) Conduct department-wide policy analysis on specific issues related to women's health;
- (3) Coordinate pilot projects and planning projects funded by the state that are related to women's health; Communicate and disseminate information and perform liaison functions;
- (4) Provide technical assistance to communities, other public entities, and private entities;
- (5) Encourage innovative responses by private and public entities

Advisory Council continued...

DUTIES OF THE WOMEN'S HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Advise the Office of Women's Health in carrying out its duties;
- Explore other sources of funding which may be used to support the Office of Women's Health and its initiatives to improve the health of the women of Nebraska;
- Bring new information to the attention of the Council and the Administrator of the Office of Women's Health;
- Provide guidance and recommend action to the Administrator of the Office of Women's Health and the Nebraska Health and Human Services System on issues pertaining to women's health;
- Interpret and apply scientific and/or technical information to issues pertaining to women's health;
- Disseminate information in accordance with the current communication plan;
- Adhere to the Mission and Vision as the primary guidance in establishing direction through the Strategic Plan and in forming recommendations for action to the Administrator.

ANNUAL REPORT

"The Department of Health and Human Services shall issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on September 1 for the preceding fiscal year's activities of the Women's Health Initiative of Nebraska. The report shall include progress reports on any programs, activities, or educational promotions that were undertaken by the initiative. The report shall also include a status report on women's health in Nebraska and any results achieved by the initiative."

FUNDING

The Nebraska Office of Women's and Men's Health has total funding of 5.9 million dollars. The funding sources are as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • General Funds | 9% |
| • Federal Funds from Grants | 86% |
| • Cash Funds, including fees and private grants | 5% |

Every Woman Matters received a Susan G. Komen grant of \$164,000 to provide ancillary services to women receiving breast biopsies and an award from the American Cancer Society for \$125,000 for mammography screening.

OFFICERS and COUNCIL MEMBERS

APPENDIX 1

Women's Health Advisory Committee

September 2007-August 2008

2006-2007 Meetings

September 26, 2007 Lincoln
January 18, 2008 Video/Teleconference
(Various Locations)
June 5, 2008 Mahoney State Park, Ashland

Chair: Mary Jo Gillespie, MPA, RD, LMNT, Lincoln
Vice Chair: Joan Neuhaus, MBA, Omaha
Secretary/Treasurer: Rosalee Higgs, BSW, Omaha

Teresa Anderson, MSN, Hastings
Sandra Baumberger, MD, Omaha
Kathleen Brandert, MPH, Omaha
Bich Chau, MD, Lincoln
Joni Cover, JD, Lincoln
Cecelia Creighton, MA, Omaha
Raponzil Drake, D. Min, Fairmont
Catherine Eberle, MD, Omaha
Paula Eurek, RD, Lincoln
Susan Feyen, LCSW, Omaha
Martha Gentry Nielsen, PhD, Omaha
Brandi Holys Tumbleson, MA, Omaha
Senator Carol Hudkins, Malcolm
Senator Joel Johnson, MD, Kearney

Octa Keen, MSN, Omaha
Mary Kratoska, MD, Omaha
Jeanne Laible, PA, Atkinson
Lina Lander, PhD, Omaha
Cyndi Margritz, RN, Omaha
Lana Molczyk, MA, Omaha
Donna Narber, Grand Island
Laura Redoutey, FACHE, Lincoln
Joann Schaefer, MD, Omaha
Amy Schuett, MD, Omaha
Francine Sparby, RN, BSN, Grand Island
Patricia Sullivan, PhD, Omaha
Marcia Wallen, MS, RD, Lincoln

APPENDIX 2

Breast & Cervical Cancer Advisory Committee

September 2007-August 2008

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jennifer Dreibelbis Omaha | Lynne Olson Seward |
| Janice A. Larson Omaha | Carna Pfeil Lincoln |
| Rita McClure, LPN Lincoln | Jill Wells Omaha |
| Joyce Morgan Lincoln | |

APPENDIX 3

Every Woman Matters Medical Advisory Committee

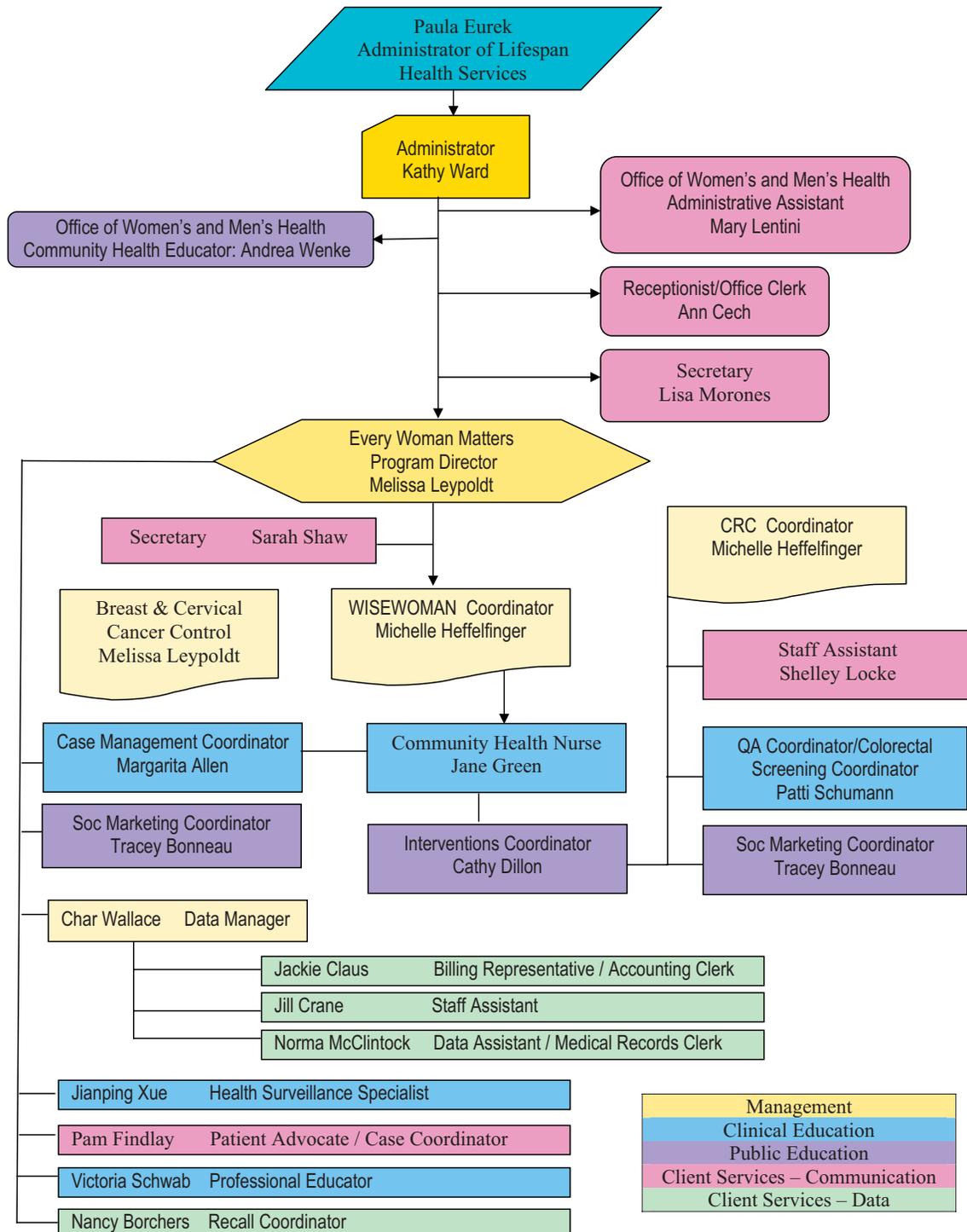
September 2007-August 2008

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Chair: William Minier, MD | Family Medicine | Karen Linder, SCT (ASCP) | Cytotechnology |
| Sam Augustine, RP | Pharmacology | Bruce Lovejoy, APRN | Family Medicine |
| Camille Brewer, APRN | Family Medicine | Henry Lynch, MD | Oncology |
| Jodi Chewakin, PA-C | Obstetrics/Gynecology | Lynn R. Mack-Shipman, MD | Endocrinology |
| Carolyn Cody, MD | Surgery | Michelle Malcom, BSRT | Radiology |
| Priscilla Moran Correa, MD | Family Medicine | Tim McGuire, FCCP, Pharm.D. | Pharmacology |
| Mary Ann Curtis, MD | Radiology | Kris McVea, MD | Internal Medicine |
| Mary Davey, MD | Radiology | Ted R. Mikuls, MD | Rheumatology |
| Charlene Dorsey, RD, LMNT, CDE | Dietary | Syed Mohiuddin, MD | Cardiology |
| Stephen Dreyer, MD | General Surgery | Anne K. Morse, MD | Internal Medicine |
| James Edney, MD | Surgical Oncology | Sherrill Murphy, MD | Cardiology |
| Heather Elton, RN | Nursing | Amy Neumeister, MD | Endocrinology |
| Robert Faulk, MD | Radiology | Diana Nevins, MD | Pathology |
| J. Christopher Gallagher, MD | Bone Metabolism | Cheryl Obermire, RN | Nursing |
| Donald Gibbens, MD | Obstetrics/Gynecology | Sandra Parks, MD | Family Medicine |
| Janet Grange, MD | General Surgery | Mary Petersen, RN | Nursing |
| Jean Grem, MD | Internal Medicine | Steven Remmenga, MD | Gynecology/Oncology |
| David Hilger, MD | Radiology | Lisa Rice, MD | Obstetrics/Gynecology |
| David Hoelting, MD | Family Medicine | Aina Silenieks, MD | Pathology |
| David Holdt, MD | Obstetrics/Gynecology | Edibaldo Silva, MD | Surgical Oncology |
| Matthew Hrnicek, MD | Gastroenterology | Debra Spence, RN | Nursing |
| Mark Hutchins, MD | Oncology | Susan Stensland, LCSW | Social Work |
| Mia Hyde, PA-C | Family Medicine | Jo Swartz, RT | Radiology |
| Milton Johnson, MD | Family Medicine | Alan Thorson, MD | Colorectal Surgery |
| Sonja Kinney, MD | Obstetrics/Gynecology | Tom Werner, MD | Family Medicine |
| Suzanne Kraus, LPN | Nursing | Marian Wehr, LPN | Nursing |
| David Lee, MD | Gastroenterology | Suzette Woodward, MD | Pathology |
| Stephen Lemon, MD | Oncology | | |

VISION, MISSION, PRIORITIES, & ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

APPENDIX 4

- MISSION** The mission of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Office of Women’s and Men’s Health is to help women and men of all ages in Nebraska lead healthier lives.
- VISION** The vision for the Office of Women’s and Men’s Health is to work toward healthy people throughout Nebraska; supported by a comprehensive system of coordinated services, policy development, advocacy, & education.
- PRIORITIES** Priorities of the Office of Women’s and Men’s Health are Fitness and Access to Healthcare.
- STRUCTURE** Organizational Chart for the Office of Women’s and Men’s Health:



APPENDIX 6

sources

1. July 2007 Annual Census Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/popest/states>
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4. State Health Facts. Kaiser Family Foundation. <http://statehealthfacts.kff.org>
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6. DHHS 2004-2008 Comprehensive HIV Plan. http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/hew/dpc/pdfs/PHA_PB_9_vol12no1.pdf
7. DHHS STD Case and Incidence Rates 1999-2006. <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/std/stdindex.htm#data>
8. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss>
9. National STD Surveillance <http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats>
10. National Vital Statistics Reports, September 2006 http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr55/nvsr55_01.pdf