

The Progress Report

A Newsletter for Partners and Friends of the
Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc.
www.healthycarroll.org

Summer 2005

About Progress

A New Chapter for *The Partnership*

It's hard to believe the corporation is more than 6 years old! We have been fortunate among non-profits that money for staff, space, supplies and programs has been largely provided for us. But, our leadership agrees it's time to start a new chapter in our story of community-based health improvement. As usual, our partners will be at the center of the effort and will make the difference!

On July 1, we launched a fund-raising effort to help assure our continued excellence. As such, independence from our founding organizations is a major long-term goal. Fund development will be a challenge for us because our "deliverables" are less tangible than other non-profits. We are also aware that we aren't the only non-profit turning to fund-raising as a budget solution. But we thrive on challenges!

We will pursue fund-raising that will not compete with our partners and friends. Most of our early efforts will be focused on a Patronage Campaign and a "Youth Fair" celebrating our greatest local resource and the future of our community.

The Patronage Campaign will offer three giving levels: Champion, Affiliate and Friend. Each level entitles donors to various perks including employee

workshops, publicity, and some sparkling new window clings! You'll find more information at www.healthycarroll.org

We hope the new "Youth Fair" in summer 2006 will become our annual signature event. A committee is already designing a day of activities attractive to adults and young people in the region. There will be local, state and national sponsorship opportunities. We'd love your

individual or organizational involvement.

The Partnership is also an eligible recipient of the "Wells Fargo Sharing Advantage Program". So if you finance a mortgage with Wells Fargo, please remember to select *The Partnership* as a program recipient. There is no cost to you and it will help us reach our targets.

A "healthier community" promotes community values and connections; partnership among organizations; locally available, accessible, affordable and integrated health education and services; safe activities to enhance mind, body and spirit, and the empowerment of individual responsibility. Over the past six years, great progress has been made toward that vision. In this next chapter, with your help, *The Partnership*, can become healthier too as a more financially independent and long-term sustainable organization.



Community Matters

Mentoring Connections Works To Build Partnerships

The Partnership's Mentoring Connections Team is creating local mentoring programs by identifying and providing opportunities for caring adults to help young people succeed in life. Currently, this team is building partnerships between schools and local businesses, community/civic organizations, and faith-based organizations. Each is considering providing mentors one day a week during the school day.

These partnerships are modeled after a program between Random House and two Westminster schools: West Middle and William Winchester Elementary. The program was developed by Ms. Robin Kable, Coordinator of Business and Community Partnerships for Carroll County Public Schools, and Ms. Carolyn Benson, Human Resources Administrator for Random House. During the last school year, 35 Random House employees received company-paid release time (1½ hours per week) to meet with their "mentee" at school.

The goal was to build literacy skills through reading together. However, the mentors also quickly established meaningful relationships beyond reading. The partnership was widely accepted by employees and students alike, and Random House plans to continue into the next school year.



The Mentoring Connections Team is contacting Carroll County businesses to develop additional partnerships like the Random House model. Partnering businesses will be able to recruit ten or more employees to mentor students at a school near their location. In addition to providing mentors, business partners are also being sought to financially support this initiative. The money will be used to eventually hire a Mentoring Program Coordinator for Carroll County, and provide incentives and recognition for both mentors and mentees.

Random House has found this to be a win-win situation for their organization and employees. Employees are noting greater job satisfaction, higher productivity, and an increased feeling of self-worth as they give back to the community. From the student perspective, research notes that youth involved in mentoring relationships show greater signs of school involvement and participation, and are less likely to engage in risky behaviors.

For further information about this initiative, or to learn more about how your business or organization can develop a mentoring partnership, please contact Laurie Beard at 410-871-6372.

Minority Health Festival A Success

The Minority Health Council hosted the 3rd Annual Cancer Awareness Day and Health Fair at Dutterer Family Park on Sunday, June 26. Phyllis Hammond, event co-chair, said this successful event attracted about 300 people, many African American or Hispanic. Also, many uninsured people visited with vendors. All enjoyed the entertainment and a wide variety of good food.

The featured speaker was Dr. Niharika Khanna, M.D., Assistant Professor at the University of Baltimore School of Medicine, who spoke regarding reducing health disparities and how people need to take responsibility for their own health.

New Officers for The Partnership Corporation

As a private, non-profit corporation, *The Partnership* is governed by a Board of Directors which has responsibility for the business and



affairs of the Corporation. The Board has held firm to its original belief that *The Partnership* should be community-based and community-led. Thus, our

organization is also led by an Executive Council, charged with overseeing the administration and operations of the Corporation and for monitoring the effectiveness of all activities. The Executive Council's responsibilities are key to the community health agenda our partners are pursuing.

Charles H. Devaud, Jr., Executive Vice President at Westminster Union Bank, assumed the offices of Executive Council Chairperson and Board of Directors member effective July 1, 2005. Charles has been a member of *The Partnership's* Executive

DVCC Logo Contest

The Carroll County Domestic Violence Council recently held a logo contest to design a new brochure describing the council's mission: Promoting public awareness of family violence and sexual assault as a community problem and working together to find solutions. The contest winner was Abbi Hoff from Francis Scott Key High School.



The Carroll County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) has existed since 1992 and works with numerous local and state organizations to promote awareness and understanding around the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Since its creation, the DVCC has received grants from the Violence Against Women Act, hosted community education conferences, and continues to impact domestic violence in Carroll County.

Council for several years, served as the vice-chair in FY 2005, and has a strong record of local community involvement. His unassuming, analytical and well-organized style is appreciated by all his colleagues and a real asset to the challenges of our organizational future.

Tracy Gilmore, Esq., was elected to succeed Charles as vice-chairperson of the Executive Council. Now in a private law practice, Tracy has also served in other leadership roles during her numerous years of association with our organization. Her extensive community knowledge, her professional expertise, and her unwavering interest in healthy family life compliment our organization very well.



Congratulations and best wishes for success to both new officers.

Come Show Your Unity

Unity Day is coming to Mt. Airy Carnival Grounds, Saturday, August 27th!

There will be music, vendors, games, a moon bounce, crafts, an exciting truck show, and great food from 11am-8pm!

Contact Pastor Ross Jackson at 301-829-0733 if you'd like to participate!



Helping Citizens Respond

Students in the Carroll County Career and Technology Center's Computer Technology class have launched a new Internet site entitled "Ready React Respond: Community Connection."

The site, at www.reachoutcarrollcounty.org, is dedicated to educating citizens about emergency preparedness and hometown safety in Carroll County.

New Resources Coming To Town

The Local Management Board of Carroll County is developing a new resource for professionals and families in our community. The Interpersonal Violence Directory, being funded with Byrne Memorial Grant monies, will be ready for distribution by September 2005.

A core committee of Mary Scholz, Local Management Board; Amy Miller, Carroll County Public Library, and Laura Rhodes of The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County has worked on this project since December 2004. They contacted local resources and utilized



their expertise to write informational sections on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Child Abuse and Neglect, Suicide/Self Harm, Juvenile Violence, Bullying and Elder Abuse.

The directory will feature a list of local resources, state and national Web sites, and phone numbers as well. This free booklet will be distributed to all the municipalities and schools in the county.

If you would like a copy, please contact Mary Scholz at 410-386-3600.

On the Horizon: Assessing Community Strengths and Needs for Older Adults

Since October 2004, a group of concerned citizens and interested agency representatives has met



monthly to begin forming a county-wide strategy to improve health and quality of life for those aged 60 and over in Carroll County. One goal is to oversee a county-wide

needs assessment. These assessment results will provide the basis for a strategic plan for services to Carroll County's older adults. The intention is that all service providers, private and public, will benefit from the results as they plan their services for the future.

Funding the assessment will be a collaborative effort,

using multiple and varied sources. A Request for Proposals is being developed. Securing funding and selecting a consultant are the next steps.

For more information, contact Becky Herman, Manager of Community Health Improvement, at 410-876-4973 or rherman@dhhm.state.md.us.

Holiday Shop Seeks Location

Neighbors in Need Holiday Shop needs a location at least 5,000 square feet large near Westminster for its annual gift shop for low-income households.

If you can help provide space, please contact Holly Hutchins at Human Services Programs, 410-857-2999, Ext. 3016.

Family Dynamics & Frank Talk About Suicide

More than 150 people attended the 9th Annual Risky Business Prevention Conference on Tuesday, June 21, 2005 at the Best Western Conference Center. "Getting the Pulse on Family Dynamics: A Recipe for a Healthier Family" was the theme. Five individuals and agencies were honored for their work and commitment to youth prevention efforts.

- ◆ Ms. Robin Kable, was honored for starting a youth mentoring program between Carroll County Public Schools and local businesses.
- ◆ Mr. Paul Zimmerman received an award for his work and dedication to Foolproof, an improvisational theatre group.
- ◆ Ms. Ann Shilling-Gwinnutt was honored for her work with youth HIV/AIDS education at the Sykesville Shelter.



◆ Ms. Jamie Moffitt received recognition for starting Voice of Hope, a youth suicide help group, in honor of Evan Moffitt.

◆ Human Services Programs received an award for their exemplary work in the opening of Carroll County's first Domestic Violence Safe House.

Conference speakers featured Dr. Mary Ann Reichelt from McDaniel College, who kept the crowd's attention with powerful insights into family dynamics that work. Dr. Monique Turner, University

of Maryland, spoke on "Risk Communication: Strategies to Encourage Health(ier) Behavior." The conference concluded with an emotional panel discussion on teen suicide and self mutilation by Gary Honeman of Youth Service Bureau and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Moffitt. The Moffitt's 12-year-old son, Evan, committed suicide last summer. Their courage to take a life changing tragedy and educate/motivate the community to do more for children in need inspired the audience.



At the conclusion of the morning, each participant received 4 CEU credits and a Carroll County teen data fact book, which was compiled by the Partnership and printed by Junction, Inc.

Help For Voice of Hope

The Voice of Hope/Connecting With Kids Committee is looking for a few extra helpers to speak to the community regarding signs of suicidal behavior and places to go for help. The committee is designing a short and simple PowerPoint presentation to take to adults who work with youth.

If you would be interested in giving this presentation to a group or two, please contact Laura Rhodes at 410-871-6373.

Wesley Freedom UMC hosts "Will Play For Change"

On June 18, Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church hosted "Will Play for Change" as part of a nationwide, 18-city summer tour featuring national and local talent. The tour started on Saturday, June 3 in Memphis, Tennessee and concluded on June 24 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Wesley Freedom UMC partnered with Indieheaven, the leading Christian independent artist organization, and Mission of Mercy, to host the event. The overall

goal of this outdoor youth festival was to provide a place for kids to hang out together and learn about ways to raise awareness for children who need help around the world.



For more information, contact Bob Jacoby, Youth Pastor at Wesley Freedom UMC, at (410) 795-2777, Ext. 15 or at RJacoby960@aol.com.

Hot Event For Access Carroll

The General Federation of Women's Clubs Junior Woman's Club of Westminster is sponsoring a hot, exciting new event. On Saturday October 8th, the club will host an Inaugural Chili Cook-Off from noon to 4 pm at the Carroll County Ag Center to benefit Access Carroll.

Access Carroll is a non-profit health care center in downtown Westminster that serves uninsured clients. It is staffed by physicians, nurses and administrative staff who volunteer their time under the direction of a full-time director, nurse and nurse practitioner.



Planning for the Cook-Off is well under way, but the club needs the support of the community and businesses to make this event a huge success. The Junior Woman's Club wants to raise \$10,000 to support Access Carroll.

Spread the word to join them for the cooking competition, food and entertainment. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12, and free for children 5 and under.

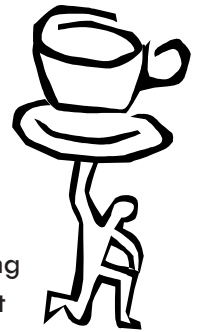


If your business would like to be a sponsor for the event and for more information, please call 410-848-1445. By supporting the Inaugural Chili Cook-Off, you will

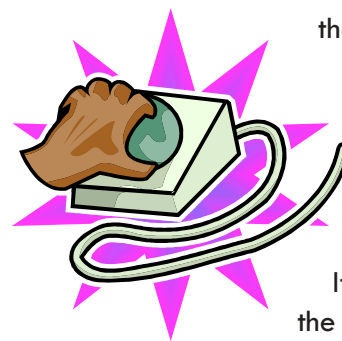
be making a difference in the lives of men, women and children by allowing them access to quality healthcare.

Need Hardware or Software?

Before purchasing new software or hardware, visit and click on TechSoup Stock at www.techsoupstock.org. TechSoup Stock connects non-profit organizations with software, hardware, and other technology free of charge or at administrative cost. Leading technology companies that have software available are Microsoft, Cisco, Lotus, and Macromedia.



Free downloads include databases, email and communications, file compression, network administration, office applications, operating systems, security and privacy, and Web applications. The TechSoup Stock Web site also lists recycled and refurbished hardware providers in Maryland and across the country



that donate or sell computers and accessories to non-profits.

If you can't find the software or download you are looking for, the site provides a list of other resources that can meet your needs. The site also has a community discussion forum for product support and to keep non-profits up to date on the latest technology trends.

TechSoup Stock is part of TechSoup, a technology source organization for non-profits based in San Francisco. It helps non-profits effectively and economically use technology to meet their goals.

The Partnership

for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc.
A 501(c)(3) corporation



Patronage Opportunities

Support our efforts to be the leader in creating a healthy community for our family, friends and neighbors in Carroll County.

3 levels of giving are available:

Champion Patron	\$1,000 to \$5,000
Affiliate Patron	\$50 to \$500
Friend of PHCC	Donation

Benefits depend on patronage level and include supporting a specific health area, logo placement in publications, workshops, and more!

The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc., leads a strategic effort to achieve improvement in 11 core health improvement areas which our community has identified as priorities.

You too can be a part of this collaboration!



Please call 410-871-6373 to schedule a personal visit regarding our Patronage Program.

Donations may be sent to:

**The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc.
95 Carroll Street, Suite 104
Westminster, Maryland 21157**

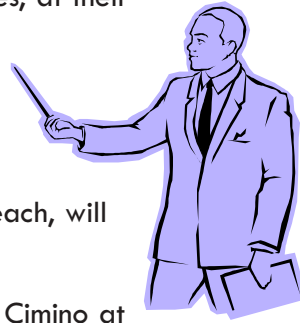
For more information, visit our website at www.healthycarroll.org

Secretary McCabe to Speak in September

The Community Services Council will host Christopher McCabe, Secretary for the State Department of Human Resources, at their September 28 meeting. Mr. McCabe will give an overview of community services in Maryland.

The breakfast meeting starts at 8 a.m. at Boulevard and Beyond, Route 140, Westminster, and is open to anyone involved in community service. Tickets, at \$12 each, will cover a full buffet breakfast.

For information or reservations, please contact Audrey Cimino at the Community Foundation of Carroll County at 410-876-5505.



Shepherd's Staff is again collecting funds and supplies for their Back to School, Free School Essentials, Community Service Project.

To donate items, drop them off at TownMall of Westminster Customer Service, Baugher's Restaurant, New Windsor State Bank (all locations except E. Main Street) and Curves in Eldersburg, Finksburg, Taneytown and Westminster.

Financial donations can be sent to Shepherd's Staff at PO Box 127, Westminster, Maryland, 21158.

The Progress Report is a quarterly publication of the Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County, Inc., a coalition of individuals and organizations committed to improving the health of individuals and the community of Carroll County. We encourage partners to use this publication to get a healthy message out. Please forward stories, news items, or announcements via email to tricia@carrollhospitalcenter.org or fax to 410-871-6325. All items will be subject to editing.

Patricia A. Supik
Executive Director & CEO

John M. Sernulka
Chairman, Board of Directors

Larry L. Leitch
*Vice Chairman,
Board of Directors*

Charles H. Devaud, Jr.
Chairman, Executive Council

The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County
95 Carroll Street, Suite 104
Westminster, MD 21157