

HealthWatch Minutes November 8, 2006

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Introduction and Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> October minutes were approved as written. 	
Agency of the Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UWM College of Nursing Institute for Urban Health Presented by Michele De'Brabant, community health nurse. Locations: Silver Spring Community Nursing Center, Riverwest Pierce Community Nursing Center, House of Peace Nursing Center Different services are provided at each location (handouts were provided). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For handouts or more information, contact Michele at the Silver Spring Nursing Center- 535-0432.
AGENCY REPORTS		
Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) (Verlene Perry-Newburn)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call volume is down but still high- 184,000 calls per week. Working on the education video. They are working with a vendor and it should be ready in December. The video will be played in all waiting rooms. It will cover how to apply, how to be prepared, how to find day care, the self-service center, etc. The Self-Service Center will be open in December. At intake clients are now given a card with information on how to prepare for their 6-month review. Available in English and Spanish. Getting a lot of calls from people who are requesting a phone interview. They are getting two dedicated workers just to do phone interviews. Applications for BadgerCare for undocumented mothers are way down. Advocates said it's because people are fearful of the new verification rules. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verlene will send the new form to Leah by e-mail.
EDS	No report	
General Assistance Medical Program (GAMP) (Sandy Szabo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moving to 12th and Vliet on November 27. Looking into having representatives at both offices. Also looking at the registration fee rules so applicants can pay 	

	<p>with cash instead of needing a check or money order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two subcommittees have met. The large group will meet this month. • New phone number is 289-5700. • The current processing time is 15 days which is unacceptable. They are working on getting processing down to within 72 hours. 	
COALITION REPORTS		
HASSR (Masiel Gomez)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting next Wednesday at 3:00 at the Southside Health Center. 	
Voices Against Hunger/Food Share/Quest Card Issues (Kevin Ronnie)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to everyone who helped with advocacy training. • Organizing an advocacy training for college students in February. Date to be set. • Lobby Day in March in Madison. Date to be set. • It was suggested that we invite a speaker to talk about updates to the WIC program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin will get a name to Leah of someone who can talk about WIC.
EPIC/BadgerCare (Sandy Szabo and Tracy Wymelengerg)	<p>EPIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second co-chair is Laura from Children's Hospital. • EPIC stands for Enrollment Process Improvement Committee. This group focuses on how to improve the application process for health care. EDS has committed to participating. • Verification center is on a 10-day backlog but they have some Saturdays scheduled. <p>BadgerCare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last month DHHS had 300,000 calls per month. The group requested county data to see if only Milwaukee County is the only county affected. Data will be available at the next meeting. • We may see movement on the BadgerCare Plus program because of Gov. Doyle's re-election. • December 11 meeting has been changed to a DRA (Deficit Reduction Act (verification) Forum. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have problems, issues or specific cases, contact Laura or Sandy who will take it to the committee. • Call Ivy Zamora at the Sixteenth Street Clinic to submit questions/issues for the Forum.
Medicaid Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report. 	
Mental Health Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report. Their meeting is next week. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandy announced there is a kick-off meeting for the NAMI fundraiser tonight at TLS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact Sandy Szabo if you are interested in being on the committee.
SSI Managed Care (Julie Barbieri)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group has been getting together every six weeks. They are looking at the verbage in denial letters and working to make them user-friendly. Recommendations will be submitted for changes in the contract for 2008. 	
ON-GOING ISSUES AND ACTIONS		
New law for obtaining ID cards and Driver's Licenses in Wisconsin (Masiel Gomez)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is turning people away for driver's license renewal and photo ID's because of a false claim that documents are not real or the documents are not enough. The DMV is implementing the new law prior to the law being enacted on April 1. Masiel brought the complaint form created by Voces de la Frontera. They are asking people throughout the state to document case examples DMV web site has a list of what is acceptable documentation and the cost of a license or ID and the cost of a replacement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have a case example, complete a complaint form or contact Vanessa at Voces de la Frontera- 643-1621.
HealthWatch Steering Committee (Tracy Wymelenberg)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for volunteers for a Steering Committee to create a report, similar to an annual report of an agency, identifying what HealthWatch has done in 2006. This would help us to write a grant for funding. This would be a one-time meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact Tracy if you are interested in participating.
Other Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulty helping people who are homeless or incapacitated to get their benefits. They have no verification or documentation. 	
Next Meeting: December 13		