## WELCOME TO THE DANE COUNTY HEALTH WATCH COALITION

### Who We Are...

ABC for Health, Inc. established the local Dane County HealthWatch Coalition in 1996. Over the past 20 years, the Coalition has grown to include over 60 health care and advocacy organizations including health care providers, local and state governmental agency representatives, community advocates, attorneys, and students committed to access to health care coverage and care issues for Dane County residents. The Dane County HealthWatch Coalition advocates for underserved populations on issues relating to access to coverage and quality health care services, with particular emphasis on health disparity populations.

### What We Do...

The Coalition works to improve the delivery and quality of health care services to people with low incomes in Dane County. In order to achieve this goal, the Coalition holds monthly meetings with local advocates from hospitals, clinics, non-profits, and staff from Dane County Human Services and the Aging and Disability Resource Center. The Coalition has 5 main goals & objectives:

- 1. Advocate on access to health care coverage and service issues to the state, county, and local agencies and managed care organizations;
- 2. Monitor, develop, and promote strategies to address access to quality health care coverage, including BadgerCare Plus/Medicaid;
- 3. Promote collaboration of interested organizations, groups and individuals;
- Support innovative strategies to provide advocacy and services to family Medicaid and BadgerCare enrollees that promote access to coverage and care;
- 5. Promote the education of health care service providers.

### Who Can Join...

ANYONE! There is no "membership" or fee required to attend the coalition meetings. However, we do encourage regular attendees to sign up for a membership or subscription to HealthWatch Wisconsin, the statewide organization, in order to leverage the coalition's impact.

<u>**To Join**</u>: Please contact Coalition Coordinator, Anna Kaminski, at <u>akaminski@safetyweb.org</u> or call 608-261-6939 x216.

### Join our Coalition Mailing List!

Contact Anna Kaminski at: akaminski@safetyweb.org or call 608-261-6939 x216

# Want More Information?

Schedule an information session and learn more about ABC for Health and HealthWatch Wisconsin by contacting **Anna Kaminski** at: 608-261-6939 x216



Visit the HealthWatch Wisconsin webpage for more information regarding HealthWatch Coalitions: <u>www.healthwatchwisconsin.org</u> click on "Coalitions"

## **DANE COUNTY HEALTH WATCH COALITION**

### What to Expect from Monthly Meetings...

Dane County HealthWatch Coalition meetings are generally held the first Monday of each month. Most meetings start with introductions and a review of past meeting minutes. We typically welcome a speaker or guest presentation on a timely health care coverage topic.

The coalition receives regular updates from the Capital Consortium, the area income maintenance agency, followed by an update from the Dane County Aging and Disability Resource Center, and ABC for Health, Inc. Each meeting includes time for networking, questions, and member sharing.

Copies of the Dane County HealthWatch Coalition By-laws and minutes from past meetings are available upon request! Many meeting materials are also available on the Coalition webpage. To access it: www.healthwatchwisconsin.org, click on the "Coalitions" tab.

### When & Where...

Meetings are held the first Monday of every month (excluding holidays) from 9am-11am at the Dane County Job Center. Occasionally, meeting dates and locations change!

**Dane County Job Center** 1801 Aberg Ave, Room 16 Madison, WI 53704

### ...And Time for Fun & Community Engagement

Each year, the Dane County HealthWatch Coalition members participate in a number of community events, such as holiday food drives and a spring household supplies drive. The Coalition takes time to celebrate its membership, hosting an annual picnic in place of a July meeting. This gives Coalition participants a chance to network and have some fun in the summer weather!

#### More on HealthWatch Wisconsin

Again, participation in Dane County HealthWatch Coalition Meetings is completely FREE.

Members are encouraged to join the statewide HealthWatch Wisconsin organization by signing up for a membership or subscription to take advantage of member benefits such as access to a comprehensive Training Portal with resources, guidebooks, fact sheets, and on-demand training content on health care and coverage topics. Members also receive steep discounts on local workshops and conferences. Membership also helps leverage the local Coalition's voice and impact!

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