



Oklahoma Arthritis Network (OAN)

Thursday, March 6, 2003

MINUTES

Attendees:

Russell Brewer, Cleveland County Health Department, Norman
Norma Goff, OAN Chair, DHS Aging Services Division
Debbie Haller, Mary Mahoney Memorial Health Center
Carrie Harris, RN, Deaconess Hospital
Sherry Harris, Arthritis Foundation, Oklahoma Chapter
Leslie Heathman, Oklahoma Physical Therapy Association
Jackie Hick, Oklahoma City County Health Department
Terry Johnsen, DHS-Children with Special Healthcare Needs
Carol Levario, Empower Program, Rose State College
Joyce Lewis, Oklahoma Disability Law Center
Gail Livengood, Oklahoma Healthcare Authority
Rebecca Loving, OKC Area Indian Health Service
Marisa New, OTR, MPH, OSDH Arthritis Prevention and Education Program
Todd Owens, RPT, OU Medical Center, Presbyterian Hospital
Sue Painton, Mercy Transitional Care
Patty Porter, Mercy Senior Health
K. Denise Smith, Lawton Indian Health Hospital
Elizabeth S. Taylor-Albert, MD, Pediatric Rheumatologist
David Thompson, Department of Vital Statistics
Virginia ?, MSW Student, DHS Aging Services Division
Sheryl York, OK ABLETech
Mona Yutterman, Comanche County Health Department, Lawton (VC)

(VC) = Video Conferencing

- I. **WELCOME** – Norma Goff, Chair
New OAN Members present: Sherry Harris, Patty Porter, Dr. Elizabeth S. Taylor-Albert, Virginia, Carol Levario
- II. **FEBRUARY MINUTES APPROVED** – no corrections
- III. **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**
“Arthritis in Children” – Dr. Elizabeth S. Taylor – Albert, MD
(brochures distributed)
Highlighted Questions:

Question: Who works with children or adolescents with arthritis?

Answer: It takes a team - doctors, physical therapists, ophthalmologists, nutritionists (which is very important), among others.

Question: Do you diagnose children as you do adults?

Answer: There are differences in diagnosing and treating children and adults.

- Children cannot take all the medications that adults can and they suffer from more side effects.
- Children are tougher than adults when it comes to pain from their arthritis, and may not always admit it.
- Diagnosing arthritis in children is very difficult. Arthritis is not selective. It can affect anyone.

School-Age Children

When dealing with school aged kids, it is absolutely essential to involve the schools and the teachers

Providing arthritis education in the schools

- 1 to 3 per thousand kids is diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis.
- Always try to give a child with rheumatoid arthritis, as normal a childhood as possible. Encourage them to join a Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis (JRA) Support Group.
- JRA Arthritis Camp is highly recommended for kids with JRA (7 to 12 yrs.) and is held in July of each summer. It is very effective and therapeutic for them. Sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation, it is a resource that will help transition participants from childhood to adulthood (13-18 yrs.) It is held in August for teenagers.

IV. Promotion

Media Campaign – Marisa New

Themeline: “Physical Activity. The Arthritis Pain Reliever.”

We will target the OKC Metropolitan Area using radio and print ads.

Will work with the Mary Mahoney Memorial Health Center, Employee Benefits Council, Oklahoma State Employee Government Insurance Board – Health Choice, and other OAN Partners to distribute promotional materials. Please contact Marisa if you are interested in participating.

The target populations will be Caucasians and African-Americans between the ages of 45 and 64, income levels less than \$35,000, with a high school education or less. The OASIS Information and Referral Service toll free number (800#) will be used. They can collect statistics and provide local information.

May 10, 2003 – OKC’S AF Arthritis Walk - Sherry Harris

Goal is to have 300 participate and raise \$40,000. Will have a 5K or the smaller 1-mile walk, which will be held at the fairgrounds starting at 9:00 a.m. Sherry challenges everyone to put at least a team of five together to participate in the walk. Booths will be available.

May 4, 2003 – Tulsa’s AF Arthritis Walk

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

- **March 3rd – 7th, “Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Week**
- **April 26th – EMS MEDFile Pilot Program from 10 – 2 p.m.**

NEW PROJECT IDEA

Statewide Arthritis Workshops – Norma Goff

May is National Arthritis Awareness Month. Workshops would be appreciated during this month but also thereafter. If interested, please let us and she will help coordinate this effort for OKC and other parts of the state.

DESCRIPTION OF MEDICAID IN-HOME SERVICES FOR CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT – Norma Goff

Medicaid Options-

Two programs in Medicaid – Personal Care Services, and the Advantage Waiver. They are designed to assist people in their homes with their chronic disease management.

Personal Care Services provides to children and adults of all ages and specific to personal care assistance.

Advantage Waiver participants have to be at least 21 years of age with no cognitive disabilities. The program provides over 11 services, with personal care as one of them. Other services provided are skilled care, home delivered meals, and the purchases of medical equipment, medication, therapies and more. The services are available to those with \$759.00 a month in maximum income, with \$2,000.00 in resources for the Personal Care, and \$1,635.00 a month in maximum income with same resource standard.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 2nd, 2003 - Oklahoma Turning Point Counsel “Walk For Health”

March 14th, 2003 - Town Hall Meeting at Norman Public Library - R. Brewer
10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., highlighting “The Uninsured Week.”

April 10th, 2003 – “Let’s Get Physical Day” – Jackie Hicks

Hosted by the OKC County Health Dept. Will be held on the third floor conference center in the Student Center at OSU-OKC and will have non-traditional forms of exercise.

March 20th, 2003 - Faith, Hope and Health Conference - Marisa New

Sponsored by the State Health Dept. and The Kramer School of Nursing at OCU. Can register on-line (which is recommended) at www.otpc.org .

“Senior Health On the Go” - Russell Brewer

An organization that covers 4 counties whose primary job is scheduling speakers to wherever older people gather as a group. Speakers are voluntary and in great need. If you or anyone you know would be interested in participating, please contact Mary Pinzon, at Sunbeam Health Services (where “Senior Help On the Go” is located), for more information.

April 2 – 3 Oklahoma Community Institute 4th Annual Conference
“Conversations on Community Renewal, Connections for Community Success”

April 3-4 Oklahoma Public Health Association Annual Conference.

Next OAN Meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, April 10, 2003.