

Story last updated at 11:33 a.m. Friday, June 28, 2002

Ardmore Diabetes Coalition sets health fair Saturday

The Ardmore Diabetes Coalition will sponsor a health fair from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the H.F.V. Wilson Community Center.

The coalition is a local initiative that seeks to prevent diabetes and its complications by early detection and education about prevention measures in the five-county area.

Partners of the initiative include Good Shepherd Clinic, the Chickasaw Nation, the Turning Point Program and Carter County Health Department and the Wilson Center.

Health screening events will include finger stick blood sugar tests and blood pressure and body mass index measurement, screening questionnaires, and appropriate monofilament testing.

Test results and educational materials about the disease will also be provided. Videotape presentations, computer interactive stations, and a roundtable discussion will be made available to participants.

Previous meetings have reviewed the prevalence of diabetes both locally and nationally, risk factors for the development of diabetes and national standards of care.

The Ardmore Diabetes Coalition seeks partnership with civic organizations, communities of faith, the Native American community and most importantly those affected with this disease.

While diabetes is largely a chronic condition, there are methods of treatment which can minimize the possibility of complications such as heart attack, stroke, kidney failure, amputation and blindness.

Education about diabetes is a cornerstone of the initiative and any interested party is welcome to attend a meeting. The coalition is also prepared to make speakers available for community organizations.

The contact person for the initiative is Sandy Butler at (580) 223-9705.