



Virginia Center for Health Outreach (VCHO)
Supporting Community Health Workers' Contribution to Virginia Health Care
Progress Report for October - December 2002

Education

- Redesigned VCHO website continues to educate, communicate, and disseminate resources (see www.vcho.cisat.jmu.edu).
- Over 236 persons attended VCHO's first statewide conference. Because of hotel space and workshop capacity, we had to turn away more than 50 persons. Seven conference workshop offerings provided continuing education for CHWs and their program supervisors. Additionally, the eight regional CHW networks had an opportunity to meet together and individually to set agenda and meeting times for 2003 (see VCHO Fall/Winter newsletter, the [Advisor](#), for details and pictures).

Consultations

- Technical assistance to Crossover Health Ministry regarding a Hispanic Lay Health Promoter Program
- Technical assistance to an AIDS project grant application
- Research assistance to the Migrant Health Promotion program in Saline, Michigan
- Provided a copy of VCHO's research survey report to Nell Brownstein of the national CDC.
- Facilitated contacts with CHWs who may participate in an Old Dominion University student's doctoral research with community health workers.
- Technical support to the Healthy Families Program of Page County.

Presentations

- In their own words: Community health workers tell their stories at the American Public Health Association conference November 2002, Philadelphia, PA.
- Virginia Center for Health Outreach – mission and goals to the Virginia Rural Health Association annual meeting November 2002, Natural Bridge, VA.

Funding

- One application, piloting mental health training modules designed for use in training paraprofessional health outreach workers, from Healthy Families of Central Virginia reviewed and approved for funding by VCHO committee with a specific award amount to be negotiated when and if another federal special initiative award is forthcoming to the Center as approved by Congress for the next fiscal year. VCHO's funding award process has been revised. This revision is more user friendly and there is a committee of three to review applications (two VCHO staff and one Advisory Council member).
- Submitted a grant proposal (\$443,066) for a Ryan White Title II Care Consortia lead agent to the Virginia Dept. of Health.
- Received a Healthy Families Program of Page County grant award (\$42,066) through the Virginia Dept. of Social Services.
- Submitted a contract proposal (\$59,958.00) to the Virginia Dept. of Health's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (B&CCEDP) to facilitate partnership building between existing CHW programs within 25 provider sites statewide and develop a pilot program that integrates the CHW into the B&CCEDP program to be implemented in 2004.

Staff

- Hired eighth and final Regional CHW Network Coordinator.