

Health Access Coalition Meeting Minutes, 2/14/06

Present: Aimee Chitayat, Mary Ann Ferrera, Martha Fuentes, Marta Bernal, Sandra Padilla, Sandy Baldwin, Lorena Martinez-Ochoa, Rochelle Robinson, Ahna Suleiman, Padmini Parthasarathy, Joseph Smith, Tiombe Mashama, Wanda Session, Regina Davis, James Acuña, Nilda Perez, Devon Sakamoto, Rachel Berry-Millett.

Welcome and Introductions: Rachel welcomed the group and everyone introduced themselves.

Presentation: Sandra Padilla and Jeff Hobson: Transportation and Land Use Coalition, Access Now! Training. Jeff distributed transportation information, explained how the information has been disseminated at county clinics, and discussed the importance of understanding the linkage between transportation and health access. Although some progress has been made on prioritized transportation issues, there has yet to be a dramatic shift to improve access to care through transportation. Jeff outlined the opportunities to continue and pursue these advancements through two programs/projects:

- **Lifeline Transportation Program**, a program designed to improve mobility for low-income residents through new funding at a regional level. This is a 25-year commitment by MTC, with \$216 million allocated at the regional level. \$800,000 of funding per year is designated to Contra Costa County for the first three years. This is a competitive grant, and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority will distribute the funds. The first call for project proposals is March 1, 2006.
- **Community-based Transportation Plans (CBTPs):** designed to confirm destinations, transit routes, and gaps identified by the 2001 Lifeline Transportation Network Study. Steps include: prioritizing gaps; identifying solutions and strategies and how to implement them; prioritizing solutions.

Sandra discussed the CBTPs that are occurring in Contra Costa County in four areas: the Monument Corridor, Bay Point, Martinez, and Richmond. Each has a different timeline, and as of now only the CBTP in Richmond has been completed. Sandra encouraged attendance at the upcoming planning meeting for the Monument Corridor on Thursday, February 16, from 6pm – 8pm at Cambridge Elementary School in Concord. Bay Point will begin their CBTP process in April 2006, and Martinez will initiate the plans in December 2006.

CAA Training Results: Rachel and Lorena discussed the Certified Application Assistant Training held on February 1, 2006, and outlined the results of the evaluation. Thirty-eight frontline staff were trained by Jacque McLaughlin and the Solano Kids Insurance Program in an interactive all-day training that allowed them to work in groups, do exercises, practice filling out an application, and have questions answered. The results of the evaluation were positive from the majority of respondents. Each trainee's CAA Agreement Form has been sent to the Healthy Families Program for approval, after which they will receive a personal CAA number and be able to access the Health-e-App online application system. Each Enrollment Entity needs to make sure that their Invitation to Participate (ITP) has been updated with Healthy Families. The training was funded by grants from the United Way of the Bay Area and Kaiser Permanente.

Announcements and Updates:

- James Acuña distributed the Spring 2006 Health Coverage Brochures.
- Rachel distributed a La Opinión newspaper on men's health, published by the California Health Care Foundation.

- Rachel and Lorena also have the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) flyers available for anyone who needs them.

Committee Meetings:

At 11:30am the group was asked to split up into their respective committees to meet regarding progress with the strategic plan. Each group had 30 minutes to discuss the status of their goals and agree on future actions.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14th, from 10:00am – 12:00pm, at 2425 Bisso Lane. The focus of the meeting will be an update on health plans in Contra Costa County.