



Department for Public Health

## CABINET FOR HEALTH SERVICES

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
FRANKFORT, KY 40621-0001

### Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership Minutes August 5, 1999 State Laboratory Building

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Approval without revisions.

#### **Name Change**

The group adopted the name "Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership" by consensus.

#### **Committee Reports**

*Community subcommittee, Diane Sprawl, Chairperson.* This committee has met three times and has identified many activities coming up, at which folic acid materials will be distributed, including state fair, maternal and child health conference, infant and toddler conference, and Hispanic health fair.

The CDC folic acid brochure (red one) may have the Kentucky logo placed on it.

Emma Walters asked that comments on the Department for Public Health Folic Acid Teaching tool be sent to her by August 30.

*Professional subcommittee: Joyce Robl, Chairperson.* This committee has met twice. Rich Mier wrote an article on folic acid that appeared in the Lexington Herald Leader. The Kentucky Birth Surveillance Registry newsletter contained an article on folic acid. Goals of the committee include getting information into professional publications and compiling a list of contacts for various state professional organizations.

*Mass Media: Linda Villock, Chairperson..* This committee has had four meetings to prepare for the press conference in September.

#### **Logo Presentation**

Red 7 E has produced our logo. This was presented and discussed with revisions noted.



"An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/H"



## **Plan**

Partnership Folic Acid Plan was accepted with several additions including the addition of a campaign goal "to reduce the number of NTD's by 50% by year 2010". (See Appendix A)

- 1) The plan is a working document with each subcommittee refining their

### **Kentucky Behavioral Risk Survey**

Provided by Kerda De Haan

An overview was provided on this survey. The Department for Public Health includes a folic acid module of questions each year and this provides a baseline and will be a primary evaluation tool for the campaign.

### **Overview of Other Campaigns**

Provided by Mary Ann Hindman

Puerto Rico, Georgia, Virginia and South Carolina have evaluated their folic acid campaigns and have shown either increases in knowledge and number of women taking folic acid daily or decrease in the number of NTD's (South Carolina and Georgia)

### **General Remarks**

The group decided that implementation of the plan must be driven by the subcommittees and at the grassroots level. The statewide folic acid coordinator will provide coordination between the subcommittees.

### **Meeting Schedule**

Sub-committees will meet as needed. The Partnership may meet three to four times per year as determined needed. Next meeting of the Partnership will be on October 21 from 11:30 -2:00 at the State Laboratory meeting, lunch to be provided.

# **Folic Acid Education and Awareness Partnership**

Department for Public Health

March of Dimes

Spina Bifida Association of Kentucky

Shriners Hospital

Kentucky Chapter of OB-GYN

Passport Health Plan

Kosair Charities Pediatric Center

University of Louisville

Montgomery County Health Department

Kentucky Pediatric Society

Kentucky Health Select

Barren River District Health Department

University of Kentucky

Humana

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield

Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians

*6 Parts*



## Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership Press Conference

10:00 a.m.

September 7, 1999

Combs-Chandler Room, Galt House East, Louisville

1. **Welcome/Introduction -- Dr. Leach**
  - Announce major statewide health initiative to combat a serious problem -Each year, children in Kentucky are born with serious neural tube birth defects affecting the development of the brain and spine -Effects/Consequences; Costs
  - Good news -- Research shows that taking multivitamin with folic acid everyday can significantly reduce a woman's chances of having a baby with these birth defects.
  - A statewide workgroup of more than 15 agencies has formed to educate Kentucky women about the benefits of folic acid and increase use. **\*\*NOTE:** If Governor Patton is available, Dr. Leach will introduce the Governor, who will announce this major statewide health initiative
  
- II. **The Challenge -- Joyce Robl**
  - What are NTDs
  - Kentucky statistics of NTDs -- twice the national average - Kentucky statistics of awareness and use of folic acid
  
- M. **The Impact or Cost -- Rita Hayes, Spina Bifida Association Denise Maples, personal testimonial**
  
- IV. **The Role of Folic Acid -- March of Dimes spokesperson**
  
- V. **A Solution -- Dr. Davis**
  - Establishment of Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership -Objectives/Duration
  - Identify/Acknowledge Partnership Member Agencies - Three-Pronged Approach with examples from each area
  
- VL **Official Kick-Off -- Crystal Montgomery -**