2006The Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership and Greater Kentucky Chapter Program
Professional Education

Professional Education Problem Statement: **Folic Acid:** A 1999 March of Dimes survey of health care providers (non-random sample of academic centers with OB/GYN residency programs) showed that only 28.7% always recommended folic acid to their patients. Only 26.8% reported recommending folic acid most of the time. According to a 2001 Gallup Poll, only 18% of women mention their health care provider as their source of information on folic acid. **Prematurity:** The March of Dimes estimates that one of every eight babies is born premature. Health care providers have a valuable role with their clients to reduce prematurity. This includes educating patients about the signs of preterm labor, advising patients to eliminate or reduce risk factors, and implementing sensitive programs that target women at high risk for preterm birth.		
Goal: **All health care providers will counsel women of childbearing age to take a multivitamin with folic acid every day and will make their clients aware of the signs and symptoms of preterm labor.**		
Objectives (Objectives are measurable statements that specify the **outcomes** of program activities, products or services within a specific time frame).	**Activities to achieve objective** *(Describe the **methods** necessary to achieve objectives. Tell **who** is going to do **what**, **where**, **how** and **when**.)*	**Progress**
Objective 2.1 *Increase by at least 200 the number of health professionals who are aware of the signs and symptoms of preterm labor and that folic acid must be taken before pregnancy to prevent neural tube defects by December 2006.*	**Activity 1** Through the FA Partnership and Professional Education Sub-Committee, provide information about prematurity and/or the benefits of folic acid by the use of the TOOL KIT (currently being developed and in use by 11/06), and through the HPEP (Health Professional Educational Project) to at least 50 professional health care providers by December 31, 2006. **Activity 2** Through the FA Partnership, submit articles on perinatal topics to at least 5 health publications by December 31, 2006.	**Tool kit currently being developed to be used in 4 pilot sites across Kentucky; Lexington, Ashland, Madisonville and West Louisville.** • **KY Medical News** • **MOD Newsletter** • **KPHA Newsletter** • **PCC Newsletter** • **UK Newsletter**

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Objective 2.1 (Continued) *Increase by at least 200 the number of health professionals who are aware of the signs and symptoms of preterm labor and that folic acid must be taken before pregnancy to prevent neural tube defects by December 2006.*	**Activity 3** Exhibit perinatal materials at a minimum of 6 Health Professional Conferences by December 2006. (The Department for Public Health, the Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership, the Kentucky Perinatal Association, and MOD staff or volunteers will do the exhibits).	• **MOD Summit** • **KPA Annual Mtg.** • **KMA** • **KPHA** • **Nurse Practioners Coalition** • **Infant/Toddler Conference** • **AWHONN** • **West. KY Breast Feeding Coalition** • **Baby Net** • **Lexington Breast Feeding Meeting** • **HANDS State Meeting** • **Other**
	Activity 4 Increase knowledge of members of the Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership on the benefits of folic acid and/or prematurity issues by distributing a minimum of 5 articles electronically by December 2006.	• **MOD Newsletter** • **KPA Newsletter** • **MOD -TIME Magazine** • **Lexington Herald Newspaper** • **Louisville Courier Journal**
	Activity 5 In collaboration with the March of Dimes, provide a clinically oriented overview of issues related to prematurity at a summit conference with attendance by a minimum of 75 health care professionals by December 2006.	• **MOD Summit on Prematurity held November 30th for 180 people** • **AWHONN Conference, September 100 people**

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	Activity 6 Through the Folic Acid Partnership, collaborate on further development of the website by contributing a minimum of 10 links related to professional education about prematurity by December 31, 2006.	• **Barren County DHD** • **MOD Website** • **KPA** • **State DPH** • **Local Health Departments** • **HPEP site** • **Louisville Metro Health Department** • **KBSR** • **Healthy Start – Louisville** **-This goal fell one short during 2006.**
Objective 2. 2 Increase, by at least 50, the number of health care providers who recommend taking a daily multivitamin containing folic acid to their patients of childbearing age and who have been provided information about issues related to prematurity by December 2006.	**Activity 1** Through the Folic Acid Partnership and Professional Education Subcommittee provide individualized support and resources to at least 50 primary care providers and/or health care professionals in the community.	• **Prematurity Tool Kit Development/Distribution in planning stages nearing printing**
	Activity 2 Distribute a letter and packet of information about prematurity using March of Dimes brochures to all OB/GYNs in Kentucky by December 31, 2006.	• **Summit invitations with information was sent to all OB/GYNs in KY** • **To be continued into 2007 ~ utilizing the Tool Kit**
Objective 2.3 Increase collaboration with other professional organizations in Kentucky by December 2006.	**Activity 1** Attend a minimum of five meetings of other professional organizations to increase knowledge about the Kentucky Folic Acid Partnership by December 31, 2006.	• **Dr. Shepherd's individual presentations (3)** • **MOD/J&J Project (3)**

*Note: All goals were either met or exceeded in 2006 with the exception of Objective 2.1, Activity 6 listing 9 web site links instead of 10 as proposed.