

# Partners...

A newsletter for the partners and providers of Early Detection Works, Kansas breast and cervical cancer screening and detection program

## Regional Nurses

### Northeast

Heidi Schemltz, RN  
785-573-6733

### North Central

Karla Schmidt, RN  
785-452-6361

### South Central

Sherry Haworth, RN  
316-660-7332

### Southeast

Stephanie Thompson, RN  
620-235-7136

### West

Shelly Nelson, RN  
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**Early Detection  
Works  
Toll-free Hotline  
1-877-277-1368**

## Director's Message

The Early Detection Works staff appreciates the flexibility and enthusiasm providers have demonstrated during the recent enrollment process change. We've included the new Enrollment Facts as part of this newsletter.

As the new enrollment process was introduced, we have received a number of questions. Perhaps a Q and A about the new enrollment process would be helpful to you. The following are examples of real questions received during the first week of the enrollment change:

- 1. We screened a woman before the numbering system became effective and she needs diagnostics. Do I need to get a number for her even though she came into the program before November 1?** *Yes, please call the toll-free number or your regional nurse for an enrollment number even though she was screened in October.*
- 2. I am a subcontractor (laboratories, mammography facilities, surgeons, etc) and I want an enrollment number for clients who received screenings prior to November 1. How do I get an enrollment number?** *Subcontractors should use the number assigned by the regional nurse or through the toll-free hotline number. Each woman should have only one unique enrollment number which will follow her through the screening and if needed, diagnostic process.*
- 3. What if a woman comes into the clinic and qualifies for the EDW program but doesn't have a number?** *She needs to be **qualified** for the program and have an enrollment number assigned **prior** to services. Numbers are assigned by regional nurses or by calling the toll-free hotline.*
- 4. What about annual visits for established EDW clients?** *KDHE will be sending reminder cards directly to women with an enrollment number preprinted on the card. She must bring the card to the provider to verify that she has the enrollment number. In some regions, the lay health workers are helping by providing the numbers to providers especially for special populations.*
- 5. What if I can't get all of the client information (bills) to the regional nurse within 30 days?** *Please call to explain the reasons why the forms will be late and request an extension. For the most part, forms should be able to be submitted within this amount of time, but we do realize that there may be extenuating circumstances.*
- 6. What if I can't get the forms to the regional nurse by February 15 (first half of the year absolute deadline) or by August 15 (second half of the year deadline)?** *These dates are **not flexible** and **no exceptions** will be made because of fiscal reporting requirements that must be completed by KDHE..*

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*Nis Wilbur, Four Tribes Outreach Educator*

### **Four Tribes to Benefit from Experience**

Nis Wilbur's experiences have taken her from the Prairie Band Pottawatomie Reservation in Kansas to Columbia University in New York City, from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis and to a child abuse and neglect program in Phoenix, Arizona. She also has worked in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault and headed a Youth Action Coalition devoted to keeping young people alcohol free. Now back in Kansas, Nis brings her skills and experience to the Four Tribes Women's Wellness Coalition. Nis describes herself as a people person. She characterizes her mission in life as "helping people get the tools they need to live a better life."

### **Mammography Trends Guide Program Criteria**

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is a survey of health-risk behaviors conducted nationwide each year.

In 1992, the first year for which Kansas data are available, 36.2 percent of Kansas women age 40 and older reported not having had a mammogram within the previous two years. Nationally, the median percent was virtually the same—36.9 percent of women age 40 and older had not had a mammogram for two years.

By 2002, nationwide that rate had fallen to

24.1 percent of women age 40 and older who reported they had not had a mammogram in the preceding two years. For Kansas, 23.9 percent of women in this age group reported not having mammograms, a 12 percent improvement compared to 1992.

For 2004, factors associated with failure to have a mammogram include less than a high school education, a family income of less than \$15,000, unemployment, disability, living in a rural location, cigarette smoking, diabetes, and lack of insurance. Among the uninsured in Kansas, 53.1 percent of women had not had a mammogram within the past two years. That compares to a 21.3 percent rate for insured women. Early Detection Works strives to increase mammography among low-income, uninsured women.



*Regina McCarty, Center for Health and Wellness*

### **Human Resources Background Equals People Skills**

The Center for Health and Wellness, Wichita, recently hired Regina McCarty to serve as Coordinator for Women's Wellness, Breast and Cervical Awareness Activities. After many years of experience in human relations and office management for a hospital, Regina plunged into the program without hesitation. She enjoys the process of raising community awareness. Her successful bright pink cards advertising Early Detection Works mammograms for qualified women was enhanced with the promise of a monthly prize drawing. Maybe *that* is a strategy Regina learned while raising six children.

**Early Detection Works  
Enrollment Process Fact Sheet  
November 1, 2006**

**The Early Detection Works (EDW) program announces a significant change in the enrollment process for eligible women.** Changes are the result of limitation of federal grant funds and the significantly increasing number of women eligible. To address the funding limitations:

**PROVIDERS MAY NO LONGER DIRECTLY ENROLL WOMEN INTO THE EARLY DETECTION WORKS PROGRAM**

**-Each woman must receive an enrollment number** issued through your regional nurse, lay health worker or the EDW toll free number 1-877-277-1368. EDW staff will qualify the woman to ensure she meets the age and income eligibility guidelines, and that she does not have health insurance.

**-Providers will be given the assigned number when the woman brings her enrollment card to her appointment, or the regional nurse/lay health workers faxes the number** (in the case of a lost number).

**-Providers may not provide services and then request an enrollment number.**

**EDW REQUIRES THAT ALL FORMS BE SUBMITTED IN A TIMELY MANNER OR PAYMENT WILL BE DENIED**

**-All client forms must be submitted within 30 days of the completed services unless authorized by the regional nurse.** Regardless of service provided, date of services or approved special circumstances, **all billing for services occurring between July 1 and January 1 must be submitted to the regional nurse by February 15; all billing for services provided between January 2 and June 30 must be submitted no later than August 15.**

**-If EDW denies payment for breast and cervical services because the billing/client forms are submitted late (after the above deadlines) the provider will not bill an enrolled EDW client.**

**- EDW will reimburse services as outlined in established contractual agreements. It is critical to the continuation of this program that all client forms be completed accurately, completely and submitted within 30 days.**

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**7. Does the enrollment process include women under age 40?** *Yes, all women must have an enrollment number. Remember that funds for younger women are extremely limited to provide services to those who are symptomatic or otherwise in need of services (breast lumps; breast cancer in mother, sister or daughter; or have other symptoms).*

If you have other questions not addressed in this newsletter or in the fact sheet, please call your regional nurse or the toll-free hotline. Thank you for your cooperation!

In other news, KDHE will submit a competitive five-year grant to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to fund the Kansas breast and cervical cancer screening and early detection program in February 2007. Your contributions to the success of the Early Detection Works Program will assist Kansas in obtaining future funding. Kansas' data quality is excellent and thanks to you and to the regional nurse/case managers, we meet or exceed nearly every CDC requirement for this federally funded program. For more information about the national program, consult the CDC website at [www.cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp/](http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp/).

*Janet Neff, Director  
Cancer Prevention and Control Program*

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