KSFHP DIABETES INITIATIVE CELEBRATES ONE YEAR

KSFHP has just completed the first year of the Diabetes Initiative, spearheaded through the KDHE Diabetes Prevention and Control Program. The purpose of this initiative is to help clients with diabetes improve control of the disease. KSFHP has entered office visit information, lab results, and prescribed treatment for clients with diabetes into the CDEMS (Chronic Disease Electronic Management System) to provide the program and clients better information about their diabetes. KSFHP also assists clients in receiving gold standard care through voucher payments to providers and assigning a KSFHP case manager or health promoter to support each individual with diabetes.

To encourage patient responsibility and facilitate data gathering, KSFHP has created an information worksheet for clients to share with providers at their visits. This allows KSFHP staff to assist clients in making follow-up appointments and referrals, with obtaining necessary medications and equipment, and with developing a stronger understanding of self-care required to manage their diabetes. Additionally, KSFHP staff works to ensure limited English clients receive up to date information on the importance of proper nutrition, exercise, smoking cessation, and vaccinations.

Lastly, KSFHP has contracted with Shirley Dinkel, ARNP to review each chart regularly to support provider efforts in the provision of gold standard diabetes care. Shirley sends CDEMS reports to primary care providers periodically to give feedback on the clients’ health status and improvement.

We recognize the success of this initiative is only possible through our partnership between KSFHP Access Points, primary care providers, and clients. If you would like more information about the project please contact Cyndi Treaster, Project Manager at ctreaste@kdhe.state.ks.us.

ATTENTION! TIME TO SEND IN YOUR VOUCHERS AND BILLS!

The State Fiscal Year ends June 30, 2006. To assure the Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program can process claims for services you have provided between December 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006, please do the following:

- CONTACT YOUR BILLING OFFICE IMMEDIATELY,
- Submit all vouchers with outstanding billing claims (those that have not already been submitted for payment) as soon as possible,
- Deadline for receipt of Farmworker Health vouchers/bills for services from December 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 is August 15, 2006.

Please continue to try to send in bills and vouchers within two month of the date of service. This will allow us to most effectively manage the farmworker grant funds and ensure funds are available for all claims submitted.
We still have *Harvest of Health* booklets available covering health topics such as oral health, family planning, safety on the farm, etc. The *Harvest of Health* booklet comes with four CDs in English, Spanish, and Low German. We have been providing these to farmworkers when they re-register or first register in KSFHP. If you are a provider and would like a copy, just let us know. Call Cyndi Treaster at (785) 296-8113 or email to ctreaste@kdhe.state.ks.us.

KSFHP staff enjoys the Health Fair last year in Sublette.

**Who are we serving?**

Have you ever been asked who this program serves? Currently our statistics show in 2005, migrant and seasonal farmworkers enrolled in KSFHP are 49% male and 51% female. Interestingly, 34% of farmworkers are 19 years of age and under and 92% are under 45 years of age. This demonstrates that farmworkers in Kansas are typically young people who are starting their families.

Did you know that 55% of farmworkers are Latino and 41% Low German Mennonites. Ninety-six percent of farmworker clients are best served in a language other than English?

We know that serving such a culturally and linguistically diverse population can be very challenging and we appreciate your hard work to provide clients with meaningful services. We hope that our bicultural and bilingual staff can support you in your efforts.

You may find the new website developed by U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HRSA) related to cultural competency useful. You can access this information at [www.hrsa.gov/culturalcompetence](http://www.hrsa.gov/culturalcompetence).

**KSFHP Eligibility Reminder**

Farmworkers in Kansas are eligible for voucher services if

- They have worked in agriculture in the past two years
- Are under 200% of poverty
- Have no health insurance coverage