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**Steering Committee Minutes**

**Friday December 6, 2013**

**7:30-9:00 AM**

**MOMS Conference Room**

**Tower Professional Park, 7906 Davenport Street**

Laura Klug chaired the meeting

**Introductions**

**Members Present:** Sharon Wade, Vicki J. Sunderman, Laura Klug, Sharon Plummer, Linda Ohri, Georganna Felts, Pat O’Hanlon, Bridget Rolenc, Cathy Carrico, Jane McGinty, Leslie Thiele, Meera Varman, Shirley Delair, Kermit Ervin, Michael Owens, John Pawlowski, Melanie Moore, Michelle Hokinson, Pauli Nejezchleb

**Members Absent:** Patsy Nowatzke, Katie O’Keefe, Jeanne Burke, Jude Dean

**Announcements:** Congratulations to Vicki Sunderman, the new Chair, and an official welcome to the steering committee to Leslie and Jeanne.

**Minutes** from the November 1, 2013 meeting approved.

**Treasury Report:**

No changes since November.

Balance: $15,295.65

**Committee Reports:**

*Community Affairs: Georgia Felt and Bridget Rolenc*

Attendance at the Coventry Reach for the Stars event at Metro South. Talked to about 60 teen parents and discovered they did not know much about the own immunizations. Working with parent advocates for the schools to get on the agenda to talk about vaccine advocacy. May also consider presenting at the teen parenting classes offered at the schools.

Linda reported on events that Operation Immunization participated in, including

Holy Family Church Flu Clinic: ~30 vaccinations administered

Consulate: education provided

Sudanese Church Flu Clinic: ~50 vaccinations administered

YES Clinic: ~52 vaccinations administered

Altogether OI administered almost 3000 flu vaccines to the student population at Creighton and about 120 vaccines at off-site clinics.

Jane reminded everyone that those 19 and older can still get free Tdap from the health department.

*Professional Affairs:* (Chairs-Cathy Carrico).

Discussion surrounding efforts to get the Immunize Nebraska brochure out once it is finalized. Bridget will assist with getting it out to the Methodist community, also forward to MOMs to put as an ad in their newsletter. Emails will be sent to past participants and members asked to distribute amongst colleagues and list serves once received.

*Legislative Advocacy:* (Chair-Linda Ohri)

Linda went back and looked at transcript for open hearing last spring for the meningococcal legislation to the education committee for mandating meningococcal at the school level and discovered there was a lot of anti-vaccine testimony but nothing came about after the open hearing. Linda is working to get notice of hearings further in advance in the future.

*Website:* (Chair-Sharon Plummer)

Chip has posted editing videos.

Members reminded to write a testimonial and send it to Laura to compile for Chip. Laura to purchase a card for members to sign at the next steering committee meeting to show thank you to Chip as well.

Considerations for the website that were discussed: changing to the new logo, distributing information to the Lincoln coalition, having the VPD poster available as a PDF or having a slide show loop the diseases, addition of unprotected stories, and look into whether IAC has syndication available.

**Other Business**

1. Dr. Varman, along with AAP, has submitted for a grant to CDC to increase HPV advocacy efforts in the state. Will partner with the task force if approved to promote the efforts as it would open the door to a lot of opportunities.
2. Spirit of Advocacy Award was discussed. The committee would like to move forward with this for 2014. Discussion about offering a grant to the winner of the award to support their continued efforts and maybe have part of the requirement be that they come back with a poster highlighting their efforts.
3. Universal Immunization Symbol. PKIDS, IAC and Coalitions around the country have been working together to develop a universal immunization symbol that will be readily recognized (such as the pink ribbon for breast cancer). This symbol is finalized and available online for use by vaccines advocates. Discussed if we would like to do anything with this. Decided to put the link to the logos onto our website as part of the resources page. PKIDS and IAC are asking any advocates to put it as their facebook profile picture during National Influenza Vaccination week (December 8-14).
4. Large discussion on how we can increase education surrounding Tdap. Cathy Carrico has been invited to sit on a meeting focused on empowering mothers to be champions. Dr. Varman is working with a couple individuals at Creighton to get information out to OBGYN offices. Libby is educating at Methodist. Will continue to seek opportunities to get information about new recommendations out to the public and to health care providers.

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting scheduled for January 3, 2014, from 7:30 to 9:00 AM at the Metro Omaha Medical Society (MOMS) office at 79th and Davenport.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Klug

Metro Omaha Immunization Task Force