



The Collaborative

Working Together to Improve the Health Status of the Community
The Health Collaborative

Members of The Health Collaborative

- Baptist Health System
- Steve Blanchard, M.P.H., Ph.D.
- CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care
- Community First Health Plans
- Methodist Healthcare
- Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas
- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
- University Health System
- YMCA of Greater San Antonio

Friends of The Health Collaborative

- The Junior League of San Antonio, Inc.
- Kronkosky Charitable Foundation
- The SBC Foundation/Excelerator Grant Program
- Texas Beef Council
- United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County

Youth Mental Health Council to Present Seminar on Teen Suicide

The Youth Mental Health Council of The Health Collaborative is partnering with KLRN and the Suicide Prevention Coalition in presenting "Preventing Teen Suicide: What You Should Know," a free, public seminar on this silent epidemic. The event will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13 at the Texas Diabetes Institute, 701 S. Zarzamora. A light dinner will be served.

According to the American Society of Pediatrics, the number of teen suicides nationwide has increased dramatically. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for 15 to 24-year-olds nationally and in Texas, the sixth leading cause of death for 5 to 14-year-olds.

"Although it is not possible to prevent every suicide, it is possible to recognize changes in behavior and risk factors that may lead to suicidal behavior," said Lisa McGrath, vice president of education at KLRN and a member of the Youth Mental

Health Council. "This seminar will help parents, professionals and volunteers who work with teens recognize the warning signs for suicidal behavior and provide local resources for help."

Judge Lori Massey, 288th District Court, will moderate a panel discussion that includes: Karola White, M.D., pediatric psychologist, Methodist Specialty and Transplant Hospital; Tom Martin, M.D., board certified child and adolescent psychiatrist, Southwest Mental Health Center and associate faculty at UT Health Science Center; Dennis Mergele, M.A., L.P.C., guidance coordinator, Northeast Independent School District; and Gerald Juhnke, Ph.D., director, Doctoral Program, Counselor Education and Supervision, UTSA. The seminar is partially funded through a grant from the National Center for Outreach.

Detailed information on seminar content and registration is available on our Web site, www.healthcollaborative.net.

United Way Awards Funds for 2006 Community Health Assessment

The United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County has awarded The Health Collaborative \$75,000 as partial funding to conduct the 2006 Community Health Assessment. "Our community health assessment is a signature program of The Health Collaborative," said Joan M. Miller, executive director of the Collaborative. "The United Way support recognizes the importance of our research in improving the health of the community." Miller (L) joined Theresa De La Haya, board president (C), in thanking Mary Ellen Burns, director of research at the United Way, for the funding. Additional funds are being sought to cover the complete cost of the assessment.



First ever San Antonio Health Literacy Conference to be held October 8, 2005 at the Sheraton Gunter Hotel. CE hours available for nurses and social workers. For more information, visit www.healthcollaborative.net or phone 210-567-2423.





Blanchard Name to THC Board

Steve Blanchard, M.P.H., Ph.D., has been named to the board of directors of The Health Collaborative. Dr. Blanchard is associate professor of sociology at Our Lake of the Lake University.

The Health Collaborative is a cutting-edge, public-private model for solving community health issues. Its mission is to improve the health status of the community through collaborative means. Programs include the Community Health Assessment, the Youth Mental Health Council and Fit City/Fit Schools.

For information, please contact Joan M. Miller, executive director, at jmmiller@healthcollaborative.net or 210-481-2573.

To receive this newsletter by email, please visit our Web site, www.healthcollaborative.net and click on the icon on our home page.

The Health Collaborative Earns Recognition

★The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) recognized the hospital systems that are members of The Health Collaborative for working together to provide healthier food in vending machines. *Healthy Food, Healthy Hospitals, Healthy Communities: Stories of Health Care Leaders*, a publication of the IATP, included a case study on the healthy vending initiative of The Health Collaborative and credited the hospital systems for their leadership.

★The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cited The Health Collaborative in its “Making It Happen: School Nutrition Success Stories,” part of the CDC’s “Healthy

Youth” initiative. The Health Collaborative was cited for its healthy vending criteria.

★The Health Collaborative has been recognized as a Texas coalition leading the way to a healthier, more active state on a new Web site developed by the Texas Department of State Health Services. The site is www.eatsmartbeactive.com.

★Duke Corporate Education, an off-shoot of Duke University, featured The Health Collaborative in a case study on community collaborations produced for 2,000 Pricewaterhousecoopers partners. They filmed interviews with past and present board members and staff.



Fit City Guy Debuts At Healthy Kids Day

The Fit City Guy made his debut at Healthy Kids Day held at the Westside YMCA. Approximately 650 adults and children attended the event, sponsored by Fit City, the YMCA and Steps to a Healthier San Antonio. Healthy Kids Day included a variety of vendors, games and activities for youth and adults and Fit City staff were on hand to enroll participants in Walk San Antonio. Healthy Families Day is set for on Saturday, September 24 at the Davis-Scott YMCA.

527 N. Leona • MS 12-2
San Antonio, Texas • 78207

