



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

Texas Beef Council

United Way of
San Antonio and
Bexar County

Work Begins on 2006 Health Assessment

Work is under way on the 2006 Bexar County Community Health Assessment and Progress Report, one of The Health Collaborative's most important initiatives.

The report, compiled by The Health Collaborative for the first time in 1998, serves as a comprehensive report of local health, guiding the community's efforts toward prevention and health improvement. Data from the first two assessments led to the development of The Health Collaborative's Fit City program and the Youth Mental Health Council.

The report is compiled every four years, and since 2002 it has been compiled jointly with Metro Health. The United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County, the Kronkosky Charitable Foundation and Methodist Healthcare Ministries are funding the project.

"The 2006 report takes the process to the next level by better integrating data, overlaying the data with social determinants of health and using a phased-in approach where each phase of research builds upon previous insights," said Joan Miller, executive director of The Health Collaborative.

The assessment and progress report are used by The Health Collaborative and its member organizations for their programs and initiatives. Other community organizations also have found the assessment to be an insightful planning tool, and the media cites data from the assessment in covering health care issues.



The Health Collaborative Elects New Officers for 2006

The Health Collaborative has elected Raymond Wei, MHA, CHE, manager of strategic planning and social accountability at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care, as president and Pilar Oates, executive director, Methodist Healthcare Ministries, as secretary-treasurer.



Raymond Wei, MHA, CHE

Wei has been a member of the board of The Health Collaborative since 2002. His other community activities include serving as a member of the Fund Distribution and Technology Initiatives Committee of the United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County and as a member of the boards of the

American Red Cross, and the Alamo Women & Family Health Information Network.



Pilar Oates

Oates has served as a member of the board of The Health Collaborative since 2001. Her community service involvement includes serving on such community boards as the American Heart Association and the United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County. Oates has been recognized by the San Antonio Commission on Literacy as a leader in promoting life-long learning and she has received the American Heart Association's William T. Wright award for community service.

Youth Mental Health Council Continues Town Hall Forum Series In January

The Youth Mental Health Council of The Health Collaborative and KLRN Public Television will continue their very successful series of town hall meetings on youth mental health issues in January with a seminar on binge drinking.

The free event will be held Tuesday, January 24, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary at the First Church of the Nazarene, 10715 West Avenue, near Lockhill-Selma. Light refreshments will be served.

"Our series of town hall meetings has definitely hit a nerve in the community," said Joan Miller, executive director of The Health Collaborative.

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Youth Mental Health Council members Dr. Jeannie Von Stultz (L) and Mary Baird staff the call-in effort that was part of the town hall forum on teen suicide prevention presented by the Council and KLRN.

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 In The News

- KABB-TV covered our seminar on self-injury. Their story aired during the Nine O'clock News.
- The *San Antonio Express-News* highlighted a call-in effort that was part of our seminar, "Preventing Teen Suicide: What You Should Know," in a story in the Metro section.
- Several local radio stations have aired interviews on youth mental health issues featuring members of the Youth Mental Health Council as spokespersons. These stations include KONO AM/FM, Y100, KELZ, KKYX, KISS, KSMG and KZEP.
- The health literacy conference co-sponsored by The Health Collaborative was featured on "To Your Good Health," a public affairs program produced by Metro Health and aired on the government access channel.
- "Great Day SA" on KENS-TV continues to air a monthly Fit City segment.



Fit City Sponsors Healthy Families Day

Participants at Healthy Families Day join in the exercise demonstrations. Sponsored in part by Fit City, Steps to a Healthier San Antonio and the YMCA, the event was held at the Davis-Scott YMCA in November.

Collaboration On Health Literacy Grows

The Health Collaborative is among a group of local organizations working to increase awareness of health literacy issues in the community. At the suggestion of The Health Collaborative, these groups have formed the Health Literacy and Access Coordinating Council. The Council will meet on a regular basis to encourage the exchange of

information among these groups and to collaborate on responses to health literacy issues. If your organization would like to become involved, contact Joan Miller, executive director of The Health Collaborative at jmmiller@healthcollaborative.net or at (210) 481-2573.

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Town Hall Forum Series Continues

"We had standing-room only audiences of almost 200 people at each of the first two sessions. We are reaching a broad audience that includes mental health care professionals and educators as well as parents and adults who work with youth."

Continuing education credits for the binge drinking seminar will be available for licensed professional counselors, social workers, licensed marriage therapists and licensed chemical dependency counselors. Registration is required, and the deadline is January 19.

To register, visit www.klrn.org or phone KLRN, (210) 270-9000, ext. 2247. The forums are made possible in part through a grant to KLRN from the National Center for Outreach.

Binge drinking is the consumption of five drinks for males and four drinks for females during one drinking experience. According to research by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the average age when youth first try alcohol is 11 years for boys and 13 years for girls.

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