

Health Care Access of Northern Residents Manitoba/Saskatchewan Workshop April 16 & 17, 2008

Presented By:
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Structure of Health Services

- Regional Health Authorities Act
- Policy Governance
- Core Services

Public Health on the Bayline

- Public health nurse 1-2 days per month
- Community Health Workers
- On call workers

Thicket Portage, Pikwitonei and Ilford:

- Public Health Nurse travels out twice a month to provide Public Health Services, Home Care Assessments, community follow-up etc.
- Families First Program travels out twice a month.
- A Physician and Clinical Assistant travel out once a month to provide services.
- Footcare travels monthly.

- Wabowden:
- A Nurse lives in community of Wabowden and provides Public Health Services, Home Care Assessments, community follow-up
- Families First weekly Home Visits
- Physician, clinical assistant monthly
- Foot Care nurse travels monthly

Other Travel Includes:

- Retinal Screening, Diabetes Program, Dietician,
 Dental Program, Infectious Diseases, Home Care Program, Mental Health
- Partners that Travel with us Includes:
- Child and Family Services as they work on cases
- Addictions Foundation of MB
- Any other community agencies

Community Celebrations:

- National Child Day in November
- Family Literacy Day in January
- Safe Kids in June

- Immunization
 - Almost 100% in every community
- Influenza/Pneumococcal
 - 1-2 trips to each community in flu season (November – March)
 - Homebound clients are seen in the home

- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
 - Sexual health counseling grade 7,8
 - Disclosure/counseling
 - Distribution of condoms

- TB Coordination
 - Follow up for clients
 - Community presentations upon request
 - Outreach

- Public Health in the Schools
 - Detailed calendar
 - Education:
 - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
 - Immunization Awareness
 - Flu awareness
 - Tobacco +++
 - Lice (September, January, April)
 - Mental wellness awareness
 - Safety Safe Kids week June
 - Diabetes (November)
 - World Aids Day (HIV/AIDS)

- Community Events
 - National Child Day November
 - Family Literacy Day January
 - Safe Kids June

*** we need to plan together on literacy – our rates are not improving

- Prenatal and Postnatal Care
 - Healthy Baby
 - Prenatal up to one year
 - Nutrition education/milk vouchers
 - Not running due to vacancies at present
 - Nurses/Community Health workers are excellent at referring to the program

- Families First
 - 0-5 years
 - Every 2 weeks
 - Specific worker for each family travels from Thompson

- Books for Babies package given to every new mom
- Oral Health
 - Our dental health coordinator has been to every community
 - Train the trainer health centre staff

- Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative
 - Physical activity
 - Nutrition
 - Tobacco reduction
 - Mental wellness

Diabetes

- RN/Dietitian travel every 2 months to communities – clients visited every 2 months
 - Presentations as requested
 - Diabetic foot care nurses traveling regularly
 - Retinal screening
 - Risk Factors and Complications Assessments train the trainer program is starting in the fall

Mental Health services present a great challenge.

Our objective is to partner with the community to focus on promotion and prevention and to reduce the stigma for seeking help.

Lessons Learned

- Clear and open communication is essential
- Regular meetings are essential
- Solutions must be planned together
- Impact monitored and evaluated together
- Trust is the basis for understanding and moving forward

Lessons Learned

- It is important to move past the problem identification stage
- We must seek input from the community on a regular basis
- The community has a major contribution to the health of its members – chronic disease prevention initiatives etc.

Lessons Learned

Upward

and

Onward

Questions/Comments?