

Louisiana Asthma Surveillance Collaborative (LASC)
2012-2013 1st Quarter Meeting
October 9, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by Collette Stewart-Briley, Vice Chair of the LASC.

Members in Attendees and Participants

Mark Perry, Program Manager
Chair, LASC

Henry Nuss, Ph.D., Program
Evaluator

Gerrelda Davis, Director, Bureau of
Primary Care and Rural Health

Kendell Lebray, Director, Health
Promotions and Chronic Disease

Collette Stewart-Briley, OPH
Environmental Epidemiology and
Toxicology: Vice Chair, LASC

Claudia Washington, Adolescent
School Based Health Centers

Kevin Buckles, St. Elizabeth's
Hospital

Dr. Jane El-Dahr, Tulane School of
Medicine Hospital

Shantelle Graves, Louisiana Society
for Respiratory Care

Roxane Jewell, Pointe Coupee
General Hospital

Caren Pourciau, Bureau of Primary
Care and Rural Health

Ashley Politz, LA Chapter, American
Academy of Pediatrics

Diane Scimeca, LSU Ag Center

Colleen Clark, Genetic Diseases &
Childhood Lead Poisoning
Prevention Program

Leonard Jack, Jr., Xavier
University of Louisiana HEAL
Phase II

Doryne Sunda-Meya, Xavier
University of Louisiana HEAL

Peggy Sanders, Xavier University
of Louisiana HEAL

Candice Wilson, Xavier University
of Louisiana HEAL

Stacey Denham, Xavier University
of Louisiana HEAL

Pamela Dixon, Xavier University
of Louisiana HEAL

Alfreda Porter, Xavier University
of Louisiana HEAL

Adam North, Our Lady of the Lake
Hospital

Claudia Washington, Louisiana
Adolescent School Based Health
Centers

Melanie Ransom, Office of Public
Health Environmental
Epidemiology and Toxicology

Eman Williams, Office of Public
Health Environmental
Epidemiology and Toxicology

D'Andra Bradford, Office of
Public Health Chronic Disease
Unit **Ashley McGowan**,
Louisiana Tobacco Control
Program

Rene Stansbury, Southwest
Louisiana Area Health
Education Center (SWLAHEC)

Iben Ricket, Louisiana Tobacco
Control Program

Jude Haney, PhD, BRFS
Coordinator

Kristie Bardell, LPHI Media

Jocelyn Lewis, OPH
Environmental Epidemiology
and Toxicology

Michelle Lackovic, OPH
Environmental Epidemiology and
Toxicology

Raymond Pasani, Louisiana
Society for Respiratory Care

Peter Ranzino, Learning
Sciences, LLC.

Action Items:

- ✓ Diane Scimeca and Michelle Lackovic will work to identify an educational one pager for Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- ✓ Mark will identify states that have already passed statewide legislation for reimbursements for Certified Asthma Educators (AE-Cs) .

- ✓ Xavier University will begin planning for implementation of legislation that reimburses AE-Cs for education provided.
- ✓ Dr. Jane El-Dahr will provide the links to the American Lung Association's medication administration educational videos.
- ✓ Roxane Jewell will prepare a presentation on Pointe Coupee General's asthma education efforts during the 2nd Quarter meeting.
- ✓ Iben Ricket will provide tobacco free schools and healthcare facility tobacco policy information.
- ✓ Ashley Politz will provide an updated healthcare provider training flyer to members of the LASC.
- ✓ All LASC members will provide additional input around the LASC priorities for the 2012-2013 grant period.
- ✓ All LASC members will fully participate in upcoming conference calls.

Collette open the floor for meeting attendees to introduce themselves and provide essential program updates. Several attendees provided brief updates around their efforts in public health.

Following welcome and introductions, Collette asked the members to review and provide feedback on the June 19, 2012 4th quarter meeting minutes. Collette then entertained the adoption of the meeting minutes; which it was moved by Melanie Ransom and second by Eman Williams that the minutes be adopted. There was no opposition.

DHH Update:

At this time, Collette turned the floor over to Gerrelda Davis, Director of the Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health. Gerrelda introduced Kendell Lebray who now serves as the newly hired Director of Health Promotions and Chronic Disease Unit. Kendell briefly addressed the members of the LASC and informed them of this vision to work with them on efforts of combating asthma in Louisiana.

Collette then turned the floor over to Dr. Henry Nuss, Louisiana Asthma Management and Prevention (LAMP) Program Evaluator who provided a brief update of the state's evaluation efforts for the 2011-2012 budget year. Following Dr. Nuss's report, Collette introduced Jude Haney, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Coordinator who provided a brief data and surveillance update. Jude also provided an overview of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention Program's revised approach to collecting and analyzing asthma and other

data modules that are included in the BRFSS phone survey. Dr. Haney informed the members of the LASC that since the 2011 data collection is weighted differently from previous data collection, the data cannot be combined with 2010 data and beyond to increase sample sizes, etc.

Collette turned the meeting over to Mark Perry, Chair of the LASC. Mark provided an update of the state's progress during the 2011-2012 budget year and informed the members of the changes that had taken place in the LAMP Program that involved eliminating the Asthma Regional Coordinators and restructuring how Louisiana establishes asthma friendly school districts. Mark also described ongoing efforts to recruit regional coalition members to the LASC. Mark then introduced Peter Ranzino who serves as the Executive Director of Learning Sciences, LLC which assisted the state in providing education to school personnel in the new approach to creating asthma friendly schools.

Mark inquired with members about possible grant opportunities to assist uninsured patients with acquiring asthma medications at reduced cost. There were no known grant opportunities to recommend from the members. Dr. Jane El-Dahr recommended referring patients to the pharmaceutical company that provides the specific medication that is prescribed by the physician. Rene Stansbury added that referring patients to www.needymeds.com and www.pparx.org for free or low cost medications could assist them with addressing the challenge of filling higher priced prescribed medications. Sharon Buchert recommended the Louisiana Senior Rx Program for seniors who are seeking discounted asthma medications. Mark indicated that both would be provided for patients on the program website.

New Business:

Mark then welcomed Dr. Ann Kay Logarbo from United Healthcare and opened the floor to accept the nomination of Dr. Logarbo into the LASC and the Healthcare Education Workgroup. Dr. Logarbo was nominated by Mark Perry and she provided the members with an introduction of her ongoing efforts to assist the LAMP Program and focus on efforts to combat the high cost of treating pediatric asthma. Dr. Leonard Jack, Jr., made the motion to accept the nomination and it was second by Claudia Washington.

Updates from Partners:

Mark turned the floor over to Dr. Jack who introduced the Head off Environmental Asthma in Louisiana (HEAL) Phase II team which included the Program Manager, Biostatistician, AE-Cs and Community Health Workers (CHW). Dr. Jack provided a brief overview of HEAL Phase II.

HEAL II is funded by Merck Childhood Asthma Network for four years. The initiative works with Daughters of Charity and Tulane's Children's Health Fund (CHF). Additional sites are being sought. Dr. Jack pointed out that most of the effort has centered on building capacity with Daughters of Charity (DOC) Clinics. Dr. Jack spoke about HEAL Phase II's efforts to identify outcomes, how the outcomes would be planted into the Electronic Health Records (EHR) and assisted DOC with improving the overall tracking through EHR. Dr. Jack provided preliminary data and open the floor to the AE-Cs. Stacy added that both AE-Cs were now located at the local Carrollton site and working with the mobile unit through the CHF. Stacy provided the steps of the holistic initiative which include but not limited to:

- Pediatric patient presents to clinic;
- Medical Assistant administers the Child Asthma Control Test, record and analyze the patients/caregivers responses;
- Peak Flow monitoring and now spirometry;
- AE-C is alerted by the physician at this point if needed;
- Physician consults with the patient then refers to the AE-C; and
- AE-C administers asthma education by covering symptoms, frequency of symptoms and use of bronchodilator and maintenance medications, asthma action plan and provides copies for school and caregivers and provide education on LA Act 145.

Margaret Sanders informed the group that a two week follow-up call is conducted to identify compliance and one of the challenges has been filling prescriptions. Margaret also added that the patient is intervened to identify issues with adherence. The patient is reminded to get their flu shot and now home visits are being incorporated. Dr. Jack added that the CHWs were provided a six month training to conduct home visits and assessments. Pamela Dixon added that the home visits are conducted through a data-driven process once information is received about the patient from Candice Wilson. Pamela also added that the home visit allows the CHWs an opportunity to assess the outdoor environment of the patient's home, inside of the home through the home environmental assessment and identify the locations of the home where the child most frequent. The caregiver is provided three goals geared toward improving the home environment. Upon returning, the CHWs conduct a reassessment of the home and the data is provided to Candice to track progress. Candice provided an overview of the preliminary data that is tracked in partnership with DOC clinics. The data tables were provided for attendees.

Asthma Friendly Schools Update:

Peter Ranzino provided a demonstration of the new Asthma Friendly Schools (AFS) Online Training Education Module for school personnel. Peter also provided a brief look at the

administrators' ability to track and measure use of the tool at the school district and individual level.

Eman Williams introduced the finalized version of the Asthma Curriculum for Louisiana Childcare Centers. Eman reminded the group that the development of the curriculum included reviewing materials from more than ten other states, review of literature regarding challenges in childcare centers and among caregivers of low-income children and review of LAMP and LASC current educational materials. Eman added that an evaluation component was added to ensure the LAMP Program is able to track the use of the tool. Mark added the centers will also receive the A is for Asthma Sesame Street DVD to assist students in learning about their asthma symptoms and triggers. The tool includes information from the California's childcare toolkit, LAMP's Healthcare Provider Asthma Control Test and LAMP's educational one pagers. Mark indicated that more than 15 centers have been signed up to participate in the training.

Healthcare Provider and School Toolkit Update:

Mark introduced Kristie Bardell who serves as the Media lead for the Health Promotions and Chronic Disease Unit through a partnership with the Louisiana Public Health Institute. Dr. Jane El-Dahr facilitated the discussion around the revisions are needed for the school and healthcare provider toolkit. Dr. El-Dahr asked if any feedback was received from clinicians regarding the toolkit and Dr. Nuss replied that no feedback had been provided to date. Following discussions, Kristie informed the group that upon making the changes and additions; she would provide a draft of the revisions before the next LASC meeting.

Eman pointed out that the letter for the school toolkit should be eliminated or updated as well as make sure updated personnel contact information and publications. Eman suggested eliminating the Asthma HELPLine information and the checklist for classroom and replace it with the revised LA Top Ten Low of Now Cost for Indoor Air Quality Improvements. Peggy suggested adding the LA Act 145 one pager. Iben Ricket suggested adding information for Tobacco-Free Schools and Healthcare centers policy into each toolkit. Iben indicated that she would serve as he lead on creating the tobacco control information. D'Andra also suggested updating the Cessation Program Monitor phone contact information from the Louisiana Tobacco Control Program and the Louisiana Public Health Institute's Cessation leads.

Diane Scimeca inquired if Integrated Pest Management (IPM) information could be provided. Michelle added that she could provide information on IPM that could be considered for the toolkit. Mark asked that any additional changes be provided by noon on October 10, 2012.

Louisiana's 2012-2013 Policy Initiative and Advocacy Plan Development:

Mark opened discussion regarding the policy priorities of the LASC for the upcoming 2013 legislative session. Mark reviewed the Louisiana AFS Prevention and Management Act which was proposed in 2012 and gained significant support from the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) and other state leaders. Mark also discuss the previous plans to seek legislation that allows for reimbursements for AE-Cs. Mark reminded the group that neither DHH or LAMP could not serve as the lead on the this legislation. Following the engaged discussion, Mark asked the group to make a decision on 2012 legislation which lead to the LASC. Dr. Jack added that Xavier would like to serve as the lead for the reimbursements for AE-Cs. Adam North added that the Our Lady of the Lake initiative could serve as an impetus for acquiring support for this legislation.

Mark opened the floor for discussion around the 2013 policy priorities. Mark informed the attendees that a decision on whether to pursue either or both of the suggested policy priorities should be made before adjournment. At this time, D'Andra recommended that the group vote to seek both the legislation for AFS and AE-C reimbursements.

It was then moved by Dr. Logarbo and second by Dr. Jack to seek the legislation for reimbursements for AE-Cs. It was then moved by Claudia Washington and second by Adam North to seek legislation for AFS. Renee inquired if we know the amount AE-Cs will be provided for the education that is provided. The LASC voted to accept the motion and second on both legislative proposals for the 2013 session.

Kevin Buckels provided an update on the St. Elizabeth's Hospital's efforts to provide asthma education to pediatric patients in the new asthma clinic in Ascension Parish. The clinic is expected to open November 1, 2012. St. Elizabeth is working to assist the LAMP Program with acquiring Ascension Parish School District as a new partner to participate in the state's AFS Initiative.

Collaborating to address key challenges in Louisiana around asthma:

Mark asked participants to provide their additional feedback around the focus areas of the LASC by noon on October 10, 2012. The information provided included but not limited to:

- Low number of parents knowledgeable about asthma medication law.
- Issues with medication compliance.
- Lack of asthma action plans.
- Slight decrease in hospitalization, but still low impact.
- Increasing Medicaid claims over the past two years (esp. in Region 4).
- No specific program for adult interventions.

- No home-based intervention.
- Continuing medical education (LASC hosting sponsored events): benefits both coalition and external stakeholders.
- Acquire reimbursement for physicians/asthma educators for education and preventive care (perhaps supporting the Respiratory Therapy Initiative would help).
- Get reimbursement for home visits.
- We focus a lot on schools but how many parents REALLY are educated on what to do in an emergency. This may not be a focus for this year. But I overhear people say often “oh he/she has his/her epi pen.

Next Meetings:

TBD December 2012

Core Group, Community Outreach, Advocacy and Policy and Data and Surveillance Workgroup Meetings,

TBD in January 2013

LASC 2nd quarter Meeting: