

Virginia Asthma Coalition
Quarterly Meeting
June 17, 2009 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: Christine Bosworth, Virginia Department of Health; Marie Chapin, Virginia Commonwealth University; Sandra Cherry, Heal-thy Generations Coalition; Paula Davidson, SHS-Coventry; Ryan Diduk, Peninsula Health District; Tresserlyn Jones, Anthem Healthkeepers Plus; Mary Kane, Greater Roanoke Valley Asthma & Air Quality Coalition; Louise Lockett, Eastern Virginia Medical School; Judy Merring, Prince William Asthma Coalition; Jacqueline Naismith, Bon Secours CARMA; Amy Paulson, CINCH; Nicole Roccaforte, Virginia Premier Health Plan/VCUHS; Myra Shook, Virginia Department of Health; Carol Stanley, DMAS; Stuart Tousman, Greater Roanoke Valley Asthma & Air Quality Coalition

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
Welcome & Introductions	The meeting was facilitated by Stuart Tousman, VAC Chair. The meeting was started at 10:06 a.m.. Members present introduced themselves.	
Partners Spotlight	This month's partner in the spotlight is the Heal-thy Generations Coalition. Heal-thy Generations is a health-focused organization based in the Southeast Newport News area, home to approximately 40,337 residents. The Southeast area represents the most underserved area of the city and has the highest homeless population of Newport News. The group meets every 3 rd Tuesday of the month from 10 am – 12pm. The coalition utilizes a community-based participatory approach to address health concerns, particularly diabetes, hypertension, and asthma. They have had great success establishing community and business partners but have hit challenges in gaining resident participation.	For more information about Heal-thy Generations, contact Sandra Cherry and healthygenerations@hotmail.com
Local Coalition Updates	<p><u>Central Virginia Asthma Coalition (CVAC)</u> Marie shared that CVAC will be holding its asthma camp on July 25th at Fort Lee, reaching children from the Hopewell, Petersburg, Fort Lee, and Richmond areas. There have been some challenges in working with Fort Lee, especially in terms of advertising the camp (conflict over whose logo is branded on what, etc).</p> <p>The group has faced some organizational challenges and seems to be at a transition point.</p> <p><u>Allies Against Asthma / Consortium for Infant and Child Health (CINCH)</u> Allies Against Asthma (AAA) has served as a workgroup within CINCH. With CINCH's recent organizational restructuring, AAA will no longer function as its own workgroup. CINCH has moved its focus to two key areas: chronic disease and access to care. Respiratory health, however, will be a topic area under their chronic disease focus.</p> <p><u>Greater Roanoke Valley Asthma & Air Quality Coalition</u> For a future project, the coalition plans to partner with the Tobacco Use Control Project to promote the local Green Movement. In order for local businesses to be "green" certified, they must meet certain qualifications with being smoke-free as one of them. The coalition will also offer educational training to businesses. Members present thought this was an excellent use of a coalition's time/resources and should be written up as a best practice.</p> <p><u>Prince William Asthma Coalition (PWAC)</u></p>	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
	<p>PWAC will be holding its one-day asthma camp on August 4th. Their partner for the second camp fell through and they are currently looking for another partner.</p>	
<p>Lifecycles of a Coalition Presentation</p>	<p>As part of VAC’s initiative to serve as a training resource for members, Amy Paulson gave a presentation on the <i>Lifecycles of a Coalition</i>.</p> <p>The lifecycle of a coalition involves 4 stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formation (usually 3-6 months at least) - Implementation - Maintenance - Decline OR Institutionalization (where the group becomes a sustained entity) <p>Developing and carrying out a yearly workplan is important to the implementation and maintenance phases. The workplan prompts you to collect and look at process outcomes (e.g. How many flyers did we send? Did we contact the people we said we would? Did we find a sponsor for awards? etc), which in turn will allow the group to realize accomplishments and celebrate them. Engaging members is important as well; the easiest way is to assign them a tangible task to do.</p> <p>In order to ensure the group does not decline, make sure you are being reasonable and feasible about what you can expect from a group.</p> <p>Amy and Fran Butterfoss are available to consult with local coalitions about their organizational structure and future goals.</p> <p>Regarding VAC’s future position, we need to survey our membership to determine expectations and priorities. Following the needs assessment, next steps should include identifying by consensus specific policies the group wants to focus on and then approach specific key stakeholders for each issue. The group needs to move from a programmatic to systems approach in order to best function as a state-wide coalition. The coalition might also look to partner with other state coalitions that have overlapping interests (i.e. Project Immunize Virginia, Virginia Diabetes Council).</p>	<p>VAC Steering Committee—survey membership re: expectations and priorities for VAC</p>
<p>VSAP progress & updates</p>	<p>Fourteen projects were submitted in application for VAC’s Virginia Support of local Asthma Projects (VSAP) funding. Local organizations could submit more than one project. A maximum amount of \$4,999 per project was allowed to do an asthma program in the group’s respective community. Ten projects were accepted based on the project details and funding available. Projects fell into four main categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asthma camps (3) - Nurse/educator trainings (2) - Community-focused projects (4) - Capitol project (1) <p>All VSAP projects are underway and will submit their final report to the VAC Coordinator at the end of August.</p>	
<p>Action Team Updates</p>	<p><u>Asthma Summit Action Team</u> The Summit is scheduled for July 30th at the Henrico Training Center in Richmond, VA. It will focus more on</p>	<p>Members—submit questions for expert panel to VAC</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
	<p>skill-building that relates to doing collaborative work around asthma. Agenda items include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keynote by Fran Butterfoss - Question & Answer Panel - Lunch and table topics - Using National Asthma Guidelines in Communities - Community Approaches to Asthma <p>Members are asked to submit their questions to pose to Q&A panel experts and to submit their best practices asthma programs.</p> <p>Registration will be made available in the next two weeks. The group is planning for 30-60 people in attendance. Target audience members include physicians, pharmaceutical groups, community-based organizations and leaders, local tobacco use control coalitions, VAPHA, Virginians for Healthy Future, Allergy & Asthma Foundation, Mothers of Asthmatics.</p> <p>It was brought up that travel may be an issue and if VAC is able to assist with participants' travel. The steering committee will have to check with VDH/CDC on this point.</p> <p><u>Communications & Training Action Team</u> The team is developing strategies to disseminate the new 6 key messages concerning asthma found in the GIP Report.</p> <p><u>Website Action Team</u> The action team has gone through two rounds of revisions to the website. Moving forward, it will need to rework the resources section to target specific audiences (e.g. school nurses, physicians, coaches, etc).</p> <p><u>Asthma Action Plan Team</u> The team is currently working to develop an electronic Asthma Action Plan.</p>	<p>Coordinator, locketld@evms.edu</p>
Financial Opportunities	<p>Amy stated that there was a NACI \$50,000 grant opportunity over two years to implement asthma guidelines that would have been a prime opportunity for VAC to disseminate the 6 key messages state-wide. VAC will need to be prepared with an organizational profile in the future so that it may readily apply for funding opportunities such as that one.</p> <p>The CDC grant was submitted by VCU and we will not find out the results until late August/September. The proposal submitted did not include funding to continue the VSAP initiative in year 1 of the grant (principal investigator wants to see outcomes before doing so).</p>	
Advocacy Update	<p>Lorene Alba was listed to give the advocacy update but unfortunately was not able to attend the meeting. No update was given at this time.</p>	
Progress continued on Strategic Plan 2008-2011	<p>Regarding the strategic plan and upcoming tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VAC will hold the Summit on July 30th - VSAP projects will close out at the end of July 	

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW-UP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The steering committee will hold a retreat to do strategic planning, identify areas in the state not reached, and do an inventory of resources 	
Ad Hoc	<p>Carol informed the group that she has been combating a lot of confusion over asthma supplies covered by insurance. In working with pharmaceutical groups, Medicare, physicians, and other pertinent groups, Carol has prepared a Q&A sheet regarding CHIP and durable medical equipment coverage. She is currently awaiting approval of the sheet. Members suggested that promoting this information, particularly to providers, could serve as a VAC initiative.</p>	<p>Carol—send out links once info sheet is approved Website Team—make box for this on resources page of website</p>
Next Quarterly Meeting	<p>The next VAC Quarterly Meeting will be on September 16, 2009 from 10:00 am. – 2:00 p.m. at the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association.</p>	
Adjournment	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.</p>	