



ACCESS INFORMATION

As the new Project Access program director, I will be greeting you in future newsletters and will share with you the accomplishments of this exciting program. We're experiencing a whirlwind of start-up activities. As you may have noticed, with this issue the parachutist on the front of this newsletter has landed safely. We met the September 1 deadline for enrolling our first patients. What an exciting achievement!

We celebrated this milestone at our Community Forum meeting on September 20th at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita. The Community Forum gathered together many community leaders who share the goal of improving and coordinating access to health care for the uninsured.

Guadalupe Clinic and SRS staff have been working hard to implement Project Access. They are doing an excellent job. Members of the Operations Council and each committee are hard at work as well. Hunter Health Clinic will be the next clinic to begin enrolling Project Access patients with a target date of October 20th.

It is impressive to see the partnership, vision and dedication to caring for uninsured people in our community by so many individuals and organizations. I am honored to work among you as we make this concept a reality. As we keep our focus on the mission, we will be successful.



Anne Nelson
Program Director

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Conducts Site Visit for Grant Application

Two representatives from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Jim Burnosky and John Tighe, traveled to Wichita to meet with members of the Project Access partnership on September 30th. Their visit was in response to an application by Project Access for a \$150,000 grant under the Foundation's "Communities In Charge" initiative.

The day-long meeting, held in the United Way offices, focused on presenting Project Access to Burnosky and Tighe and demonstrating the community-based support that has formed around the program.

"We wanted them to see the level of commitment and compassion that has developed in the process of establishing Project Access," said Anne Nelson, program director. "Everyone that participated in the site visit focused on patient care, and how their piece fits into the whole project."

Community members who presented information during the site visit included:

- Dwight Allen, executive director, MSSC
- Dr. Michael Bates, president, MSSC
- Bill Buchanan, Sedgwick County manager
- Dr. Ed Dismuke, chair, Department of Preventive Medicine, UKSM-Wichita
- Marlene Dreiling, director, Guadalupe Clinic
- Ed Fonner, executive director, Governor's Public Health Improvement Commission



Pat Hanrahan (far left) and Dr. Michael Bates (far right) were two community members who met with Jack Tighe and Jim Burnosky of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation on September 30th.

- Pat Hanrahan, executive director, United Way of the Plains
 - Rhonda Lewis, assistant professor, Wichita State University
 - Paul Meals, chief of adult and medical programs, SRS
 - Dr. Chris Moeller
 - David Nevill, chief operating officer, Wesley Medical Center
 - Pat O'Donnell, director, Via Christi Community Mission Services
 - Dr. Paul Uhlig
 - Ruth Wetta-Hall, Department of Preventive Medicine, UKSM-Wichita
- During a working lunch, the Foundation representatives identified several strengths of the program as well as items requiring additional response or information.
- News of the status of the grant application should be received locally in November. If awarded, funds for planning and program development will be available beginning on January 1. MSSC Project Access would then be eligible to apply for a two-year implementation grant.

**TARGET REACHED
SEPTEMBER 1**

IN THE KNOW

- As of October 1, 395 doctors have signed up to participate in Project Access.
- Approximately 40 patients have been entered in the C.A.R.E.S. database. Work is underway to enable the staff of Guadalupe Clinic access to the database.
- Interviews are being conducted to fill the position of Project Access facilitator. The position will serve as a liaison between patients, doctors and referral sites.
- Hunter Health Clinic is scheduled to begin enrolling patients in Project Access on October 20.
- To receive copies of the new Project Access brochure, call 688-0600.

THANK YOU

United Way's GIVE Program and IBM for the donation of a computer and monitor.

University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita for providing the meeting space for the September 20th Community Forum.

Dr. Paul Uhlig and Alan McKenzie for sharing their time and talents at the Community Forum.

United Way for hosting the Robert Johnson Foundation site visit on September 30th.

Dr. Paul Uhlig for participating in Project Access' presentation to the Robert Johnson Foundation representatives.

Sullivan Lithographics and Greg Sullivan for creating the new Project Access brochure.

Community Forum Celebrates Project Access' Successful Beginning

On September 20th, members of the Project Access partnership gathered at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita to celebrate the successful launching on September 1 of this new community effort to serve the uninsured population of Sedgwick County.

The community forum opened with welcoming remarks from Dr. Michael Bates, MSSC president. Anne Nelson, program director, shared the newly developed Project Access mission statement and updated the audience on the status of the program. She acknowledged the efforts of the various planning and implementation committees.

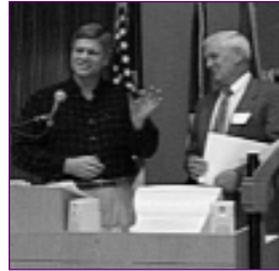
"Project Access exists today not because of the work of a staff but because of the commitment of a group of people caring together in a circular and holistic way," Nelson remarked.

Marlene Dreiling, director of Guadalupe Clinic, shared the clinic's experiences as the first referral site for Project Access. She

described the enrollment process, particularly noting the value of the SRS intake worker now located at the clinic.

"With SRS on-site, our patients can be referred to other community services and resources, even if they are not eligible for Project Access," Dreiling reported.

Other forum speakers included Dr. Rick Kellerman, chair of the Care Coordination Committee; Alan McKenzie, BCMS (North Carolina) Project Access; and Dr. Paul Uhlig, formerly of Wichita now residing in New Hampshire.



During the forum, Dr. Paul Uhlig (left) recognized the efforts of several individuals in successfully launching Project Access, including Dwight Allen, MSSC executive director.



Alan McKenzie, BCMS Project Access (left) and Dr. Paul Uhlig visit with Dr. Michael Bates after the September 20th Community Forum. Both McKenzie and Uhlig traveled to Wichita to participate in the forum.

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