

MINUTES
ALABAMA DIABETES NETWORK (ADN) MEETING

January 19, 2011

The Alabama Diabetes Network meeting was held at the Montgomery Health Department located in Montgomery, Alabama. The following individuals were in attendance:

NETWORK MEMBERS	EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS (State Health Department Staff)
Mike Bice Ethelyn Brown Michael Henderson Alethea Hill Mary Hooks Mattie Madis Kaye Melnick Ben Moreira Israel Moore Dr. Dennis Pillion Mark Register Rae Ellyn Sarver Jon Tanja	Diane Beeson Debra Griffin Jessica Hardy Bob Hinds Dr. Jim McVay LaMont Pack Sondra Reese GUEST SPEAKER Debra Epps

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order by **Dennis Pillion, Ph.D., Chair**. A motion to forego the September 15, 2010, minutes was seconded and passed.

UPDATES/BUSINESS SESSION

Jim McVay, Dr.P.A., Director, Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease, greeted the network and gave an update on the diabetes burden. Dr. McVay indicated that diabetes is increasing. What is the knowledge level of healthcare providers and consumers about diabetes? Also, Dr. McVay asked, "How can we do it better?" After speaking, Dr. McVay praised Dr. Dennis Pillion for going above and beyond the call of duty on a daily basis and presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award. The award in part stated his exemplary service to the Alabama Diabetes Advisory Council and direct leadership as chairperson of the Alabama Diabetes Network. Dr. Pillion was instrumental in the development of numerous very effective diabetes related public service announcements. In addition, he was a major contributor to the creation of a CBS TV 8 diabetes special in Montgomery, AL, plus an ABC TV 33/40 diabetes special in Birmingham, AL, as well as the development of the Alabama Gas Pump Topper Billboard program. All of this additional work has been done while conducting diabetes research

as a professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham from 2004 to 2011. The singular accomplishments and distinctive leadership provided by Dr. Pillion has significantly advanced diabetes prevention and education in our state. Well done! Dr. McVay then advised the ADN membership that we will be inducting new officials today, as Dr. Pillion is moving on to better things.

Bob Hinds, Director, Chronic Disease, thanked Dr. Pillion for his service to ADN. Mr. Hinds gave an update on the Chronic Disease programs. He stated that the Cardiovascular Program Advisory Council meets in the same room as the ADN. Mr. Hinds reminded the attendees that February 4, 2011, is Go Red for Women Day. Also, he advised that a lot of activity is in line with the system of care for stroke. Telemedicine for stroke treatment has made very little progress. The problems are economic and on the legal side of things. He advised that in the Epidemiology Branch, Sondra Reese has added an additional staff person. In addition, Healthy Communities Branch, including Asthma, is collecting data which will be very useful for the state. Further, Tobacco Prevention/Cessation is a growth industry and is now a separate Division due to new grants from the Food and Drug Administration. The inspection of retail tobacco sales with a minor child who attempts to purchase tobacco products will reveal whether or not Alabama tobacco retail establishments are following the law. We hope to begin these inspections in the spring of 2011. Mr. Hinds also advised about a two year project concerning the Cessation Program benefits. There has been great progress with the cessation line. Also, the Youth Tobacco Program has gained more importance as the retail tobacco sales inspections indicate.

LaMont Pack, Director, Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, gave an update on the Diabetes Branch's activities. Mr. Pack informed the membership about the Gas Pump Topper program. The program included placing ads on filling stations gas pump tops of over 70 gas stations like Shell, Amoco, etc., including Murphy fillings stations at Wal-Mart, throughout the state. Besides a message on diabetes prevention and control, it directed viewers to the National Diabetes Educator Program's (NDEP) 1-800 number, where additional diabetes information was available. The theme, *Reaching People Where They Are...for Good Health*, is to reach and educate Alabamians from all socioeconomic status and encourage them to call the 1-800 number for more information on diabetes prevention and control. The campaign ran from September through November 2010, with only Murphy stations participating in October and November due to budget constraints. There were 100 calls to NDEP as reported by the National Institute for Health (NIH) for September 2010 and 697 pieces of diabetes literature ordered from NDEP.

Also, in collaboration with the Tobacco Program, Demetra Peoples and the diabetes staff met with the Alabama Truckers Association (ATA) in Montgomery to discuss diabetes and tobacco cessation and to have them consider a worksite wellness program. The ATA members were owners, CEOs, financial, and safety staff for trucking companies. They advised that if a truck driver in Alabama is started on insulin for diabetes, his employment as a truck driver will be terminated. A Red Bay, Alabama trucking company showed interest. In addition, diabetes staff collaborated with Melanie Rightmyer of the Cardiovascular Program and Mayor Omar Neal of Tuskegee, AL, to plan a possible worksite wellness program for city employees.

Then Mr. Pack advised the membership of our unique position to educate Alabamians in our communities concerning diabetes prevention and control. He introduced a data collection form for activities called Flow and Trend Analysis. It has two categories Media and Events and Education and Events. The electronic form automatically calculated the totals monthly and quarterly. This form gives an easy to read, quick, bird's eye view of activities completed by the ADN Team and will help the Alabama

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program provide information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for reporting purposes.

Diane Beeson, Director, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, reported that the U.S. Surgeon General's report revealed smoking prevalence is decreasing nationwide. Approximately 80% are not smokers. Ms. Beeson presented a petition for the membership to consider signing for smoke-free workplaces to include restaurants. Also, she indicated ways to support this effort besides signing the petition, which are to write a letter to the Governor, write letters to legislators, call the Governor's office, and share stories of survival, for a Smoke-Free Alabama. Ms. Beeson distributed the petition to **Adopt a Comprehensive Statewide Smoke-Free Alabama Law** and 15 members signed on. Then Dr. Pillion completed the **Endorsement** on the efforts to enact a 100% comprehensive statewide law to protect families and workers from secondhand smoke on behalf of the ADN. In addition, Ms. Beeson reminded the membership about the 1-800-Quit-Now smoking cessation program. They have certified cessation counselors and four weeks is the magical number to remember for four free weeks of nicotine replacement therapy and free counseling. Further, Ms. Beeson related that cruise ships have no smoking and Amtrak has a no smoking policy.

Deborah D. Epps, Pharm D., Regional Medical Liaison, Diabetes Field Medical Team, Sanofi Aventis, U.S. Medical Affairs, presented on **Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes, Perspective from the ADA Consensus Statement on Medical Management of Hyperglycemia and Standards of Care**. She began with the epidemiology and natural history of type 2 diabetes mellitus with an overview of the diabetes epidemic in the United States. Then Ms. Epps provided information on diabetes diagnosis criteria, categories for increased risk, and treatment recommendations for individuals with diabetes. Also, the United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study results were provided with goals for intensive diabetes management, and different therapies were discussed before the presentation was concluded.

Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Alabama Diabetes Network was convened by Dr. Pillion. On behalf of the Nominating Committee, the following individuals were recommended for leadership roles of the Coalition for Alabama Diabetes Network:

Chairperson

Dr. Evelyn Crayton, Assistant Director, Family Consumer Sciences, Cooperative Extension Systems, Auburn University, AL

Vice-Chairperson

Dr. Mark Swanson, Professor, School of Optometry, University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL

A motion to accept the nominees as chairperson and vice-chairperson was seconded and passed. Both members were not available at this meeting. The new Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will take office on May 18, 2011.

Network Feedback was given by **Evelyn Brown, Gadsden Regional Medical Center**. Ms. Brown stated that we need to try to assist with helping them (truck drivers) to be able to keep their drivers license. "You can fly an airplane if you take insulin," she said. We need to look at the law. Ms. Brown asks, "Is it a federal law?" Mr. Pack mentioned that the Alabama Diabetes Resource Directory is in draft form for the membership review. The membership reviewed the document and minimal changes were made on the spot to telephone numbers, addresses, and one resource had recently closed. Dr. Pillion asked the membership for other topics they would like to have covered. Eye care, foot care, and bariatric surgery

Diabetes Education Program, Eagle Books series (large and small), and other diabetes literature on display.

Acknowledgement/Adjourn was conducted by Dr. Pillion, when no further comments were given.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debra Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

Debra Griffin, Nurse Educator/Coordinator
Diabetes Prevention and Control Branch

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LaMont Pack". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

LaMont Pack
Director, Diabetes Prevention and Control Branch