

Obesity Task Force Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2008  
9:00 a.m. - noon  
AL Power Company, Water Course Building  
Clanton, AL

Mim Gaines welcomed members to the meeting.

Heather Austin provided an overview of the work completed at UAB on weight management and bariatric surgery for teens in Alabama.

Kathee Briggs, East AL Medical Center, provided an update on Scale Back Alabama 09. The program will start in January 2009. Kathee encouraged Task Force members to be weigh-in sites.

Verna Gates explained how she started Fresh Air Families. This non profit group works to get families outside, together. There is no charge to participate in the activities, unless noted. Verna is working to get activities statewide. The web page is <http://www.freshairfamily.org/>

Olivia Thomas provided information about the upcoming Southern Obesity Summit to be held in Birmingham. This Summit will include 15 Southern States sharing successes and learning from each other. Participants will work together as a state team to develop approaches to address the problem in their home state. Members of the Task Force were encouraged to attend and be part of the AL team.

The committees broke into individual work groups.

- I. Health Providers
- II. Community
- III. Youth and Family
- IV. Data
- V. Advocacy

The Community work group will help with the local planning of the Southern Obesity Summit. Members interested will be contacted for a planning meeting to be held at BlueCross Blue Shield in Birmingham.

Future meetings:

November 7, 2008 (2009 planning meeting) - All meetings will be in Clanton, AL, unless otherwise noted, and are from 9:00 a.m. until noon, with the option for staying until 2 for committee work.