

HRSA/MCHB 2007 FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Building Blocks for Promising Practice Models

October 14 - 17, 2007

AMCHP

NAN STREETER: Good morning.

AUDIENCE: Good morning.

NAN STREETER: Oh, that's better than yesterday. I mean, this is two in a row. I was telling Mike that I had problems with my alarm again. This is the second day while I've been here. I've been here since Thursday and my alarm was--the time was set on PM and the alarm was set on AM. And fortunately, I woke up on time, so here I am.

It's a great pleasure to be here and to be able to talk about AMCHP. And as Peter mentioned yesterday when he was recognizing our immediate past president, Jeff Lobos. You all know that AMCHP has been through some trying times in the past five or six years and we're on to a new age, a new era in AMCHP, and I'm thrilled to be held to be President during that time. And for--so for AMCHP we're--it's a great time.

However, I wish I could say the same was true in terms of the national picture. It's going to be very challenging for all of us to accomplish what we need to accomplish and what we want to accomplish given what's going on nationally. But Mike will talk about that more as he does his presentation. So I'm going to move over a little bit, so I can see--it's true, there's a disadvantage to being short sometimes.

So I just want to give you an update. You all should have at your tables a copy of AMCHP's strategic plan. And we worked on this plan for a couple of years, wanting to make sure that the plan reflected the organization, its mission, its commitment to its members. And so, I encourage you to look that over, we'll be talking about that, both Mike and I.

So the first goal is there will be an action-work and a national agenda to improve the health of women and children. And our goal here is for AMCHP to create an AMCHP national agenda for the health of mothers and children in our country, including, of course, children and youth who has special health care needs and families. And so, we are currently working on conceptualizing what that agenda will look like and bring in our partners in with us to develop that national agenda. We have obviously have done work towards this, but we haven't actually formalized the agenda yet, but we will get there.

Then, the second goal is that maternal and child health care organizations and programs will have strong effective leadership at national, state and local levels. And I think we've done quite a bit a work in this area in terms of promoting leadership, developing programs that enhanced leadership skills on--for state-Title V directors and staff. And obviously, we'll be continuing to work on this.

I think one of our biggest concerns, and I think you all share this, is workforce development succession. Some of us are aging and there's the concern about who is going to succeed the current leaders in this country in the MCH field. And, so, we're working very hard on looking at some of those issues and developing some strategies to insure that AMCHP is addressing the need for succession of leaders, and that AMCHP systems policies and programs will be aligned to evidence based best practices at all levels. And you heard my presentation yesterday, talking about it, what AMCHP is doing, relative to Best Practices.

And after the session yesterday morning, Julie Tang and I were talking and both of us have been thinking during the presentations that we really need to link up with ASTDD and they with us, so that we can promote Best Practices in oral health better. And so, we will be having more conversations with ASTD to ensure that oral health is incorporated into our Best Practices and that MCH is incorporated into theirs.

And our last goal is that AMCHP will be an effective, efficient organization. And obviously, this is critical to the success of the organization in representing you, representing moms and kids in this nation, to make sure that we are doing what it is we're committed to doing.

And I think having Mike onboard now and as Casey said, if you haven't met on--well, you'll soon experience him. That's the best way to put it. I, frankly, am not sure I'm going to be able to keep up with this man, but I'm really looking forward to the run. So Mike, with his leadership, with his skills, with his expertise and his vision, is making a great contribution to this particular goal, as well as board members and members of AMCHP.

So some of the priorities that I have outlined for my two years as president is to make sure that AMCHP has a national prominence. And again, this, for me, reflects the history of the past several years, wanting to make sure that AMCHP is visible, is out there, is representing you, representing moms and kids, and making sure that we're visible on a legislative advocacy arena. I already mentioned the national agenda. And again, that feeds in to the legislative action that we should be doing and we are doing.

Increasing the focus on partnerships. This is critical to the work that we do. We need all of you partners. And so, we have been working hard on meeting with

different partners, engaging in discussions about how we can partner better, how we can collaborate better. And so, and that's going to help all of us do our work.

And I do want to say that, I think one of the exciting things that has happened in the past couple of years is that relationship with family voices, with families, and we do two positions on our board that are allocated or specific for family representatives. And so, we really made a commitment to partner with families. And we obviously will continue that and develop that further.

Increase the AMCHP member involvement. I think that given what we have been through the past few years that we have not done a very good job with engaging you all in the work that we do. And because of that, you all may not know what it is that we do. And so, that definitely is one of my goals, is to make sure that we're broadening our membership, broadening our membership involvement in the work that we do everyday.

Funding diversification. We are funded primarily through Federal funds. We also have other funds coming in such as membership dues and income from conferences and so on, and foundation money. But we really need to find a way to diversify our funding, so that we are able to do more with our funding and do more as an organization.

And then, growing organizational capacity. And that's going to be Mike's job basically, is to make sure that the organization has a capacity to represent you all to support Title V directors in states, in the work that you all do.

And for those of you who are at the closing session of the March 2007 session, I want to be able to say that the children are well. And I know that's what you want to say too and be able to have that be reality.

Now, this was going to be Mike's slide. But as we were going through these slides, I decided to steal it. The crying baby or the frustrated baby represents me before Mike, and the happy baby represents me with Mike. So I'm going to turn the time over to Mike and I know you'll enjoy hearing from him. Thank you.