

Starting Off Right

A Quarterly Newsletter from
Healthy Start Coalition of Jefferson,
Madison & Taylor Counties, Inc.

WINTER 2019



In this Issue

*Celebrating 13 Years of
Achievements: Day of
Dialogue on Minority
Health*

Pages 2 & 3

*Folic Acid and Birth
Defect Awareness Month*
Page 4

*Healthy Families Seven
Rivers Welcomes New
Staff and New Services*
Page 4

What's New? Healthy Start, That's What!

For over 27 years, our community has been familiar with Healthy Start; the mission hasn't changed, but how its accomplished has been truly overhauled.

Effective March 2019, the program is new and improved. The goal of Healthy Start is still to reduce infant mortality, reduce the number of low birth weight babies, and improve health and developmental outcomes.

Signed into law in 1991 under Governor Lawton Chiles, Healthy Start

legislation calls for the screening of all Florida's pregnant women and infants to identify those at risk for poor birth, health, and developmental outcomes.

ALL pregnant women regardless of their marital, economic, or immigration status are eligible to participate in the Healthy Start program if they are at high risk for a poor pregnancy outcome. This includes post-partum women and their infants up to age three.

Here's a summary of the new Healthy Start ...

Home Visiting New Benefits

The new Healthy Start program offers the following services through home visiting:

- Developmental Screening for infants up to age 3
- Interconceptional Education and Counseling services
- Screening and Intervention for Intimate Partner Violence
- Screening and Intervention for Substance Use
- Screening and Intervention for moderate Perinatal Depression

Home Visiting Continued

The same Healthy Start program still offers the following services through home visiting:

- Care Coordination and Outreach
- Breastfeeding Education by Certified Lactation Counselors
- Parenting Education and Support
- Smoking Cessation Assistance

The Healthy Start staff for Jefferson, Madison & Taylor Counties was trained on Feb. 4-5 and are excited about the new services being offered! Also, on March 20, a Service Delivery Planning kickoff meeting was held where several board members and direct service staff committed to a comprehensive

Needs Assessment and work over the next two years to produce a strategic plan to improve maternal and child health in JMT.

Donna Hagan
Executive Director



Contact Us

1336 SW Grand St.
PO Box 568
Greenville, FL 32331
Phone: 850-948-2741
Fax: 850-948-3072
cjhutto@healthystartjmt.org
www.healthystartjmt.org

Celebrating 13 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

The Day of Dialogue on Minority Health (DoDMH) brings church and faith-based leaders together from north Florida counties, along with health organizations, university faculty and students, as well as community leaders to identify health concerns, while examining the role of the church and sharing best practices for developing action plans that solve challenges to minority health.

DoDMH began in Leon County and now has expanded into eight, which are actively involved in planning faith-based community health programs. **Over 1,200 people have attended a total of 12 events since 2007.**

For 2019, Taylor County sponsored the Day of Dialogue on Minority Health XIII, which was celebrated on Feb. 23 at New Brooklyn M.B. Church located in Perry. In partnership with Healthy Start Coalition of Jefferson, Madison & Taylor Counties, the theme was “Knowledge Is the Key to a Healthier Me.” A healthy lunch and fun exercises were part of the prizes and other giveaways!

Over 60 participants came out with the basic intention of making Taylor and surrounding counties healthier. The affair opened with Dr. Sinclair Madry Jr., pastor of New Bethel M.B. Church, which was followed by the welcome by Mrs. Renita Malone, and then came the Day of Dialogue on Minority Health background and history by Dr. Fred Seamon, DoDMH chairperson. Keynote speakers followed.

Our keynote and platform speakers included Walter Niles, MPA, Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, and, promoting her “State of the Infant,” was Donna Hagan, MBA, Executive Director, Healthy Start Coalition of Jefferson, Madison & Taylor Counties Inc.

- Big Bend Area Health Education Center
- A New Dawn, A New Beginning, LLC
- Big Bend Cares
- Florida Department of Health in Jefferson County
- Florida Department of Health in Taylor County
- Florida Department of Health in Leon County
- POPIN (Parents of the Panhandle Information Network)
- Refuge House, Inc. with Sexual Trauma Assault Response Team (S.T.A.R.T.)
- University of Florida



Tonya Bell, Certified Community Health Worker, received the 2019 Health Equity Champion Award.



FAITH BASED COMMUNITY HEALTH DAY OF DIALOGUE On Minority Health



Healthy Start Staff

- Donna Hagan, MBA
Executive Director
850-948-2741
dhagan@healthystartjmt.org
- Cindy Hutto
Business Manager
850-948-2741
cjhutto@healthystartjmt.org
- Tonya Bell, CCHW
Community Health Educator
850-253-5355
tbell@healthystartjmt.org

Direct Service Staff

- Supervisor - Jefferson & Madison
Shanetha “Nita” Mitchell
850-973-5000 (Ext. 2131)
- Care Coordination - Madison
Tangela Knight
Tammy Hinson
850-973-5000
- Care Coordination - Jefferson
Cumi Allen
850-342-0170
- Supervisor - Taylor
Kristie Lutz
850-223-5117
- Care Coordination - Taylor
Sarah Bayes & Linda Murphy

Healthy Families

Seven Rivers Staff

- Program Supervisor
Paula Roberts
- Parent Educators
Elizabeth Gooden, Tonya Cason
& Cynthia Monroe-Harris
- Family Assessment
Angelina Curtis &
Soneyda Jarvis

Board Members

- Lynn Elliott President
- Nichole Wilder Vice-President
- Bonnie Webb Secretary/Treasurer
- Jefferson County Members:
Tomica King &
Gladys Roann-Watson
- Madison County Members:
Ernest Bruton &
Lucile Day
- Taylor County Members:
Eric Scott & Eddie Cullaro

Folic Acid and Birth Defect Awareness Month saw a door-to-door campaign in...



Jefferson County



Madison County



Taylor County



◀ These are samples of the give-away bags for each of those counties.

Tonya attended a community health fair at the Jefferson County Senior Citizens Center. ▶



Healthy Families Seven Rivers Welcomes New Staff and New Services

HFSR trained for home visits and Spanish-speakers



HFSR welcomes Angelina Curtis (left) and Soneyda Jarvis (right) to their Family Support Workers (FSW). This home visiting team also received extensive training in March. Curtis is also a trained Florida Child Passenger Safety Technician.

"We're excited to be able to perform home visits with these deserving families, and regarding car seat safety, there are lots of improper installations among current car seat users, and I'm very happy to assist with this crucial cause; please contact me anytime at Healthy Families; phone (850) 464-1569, or email me at acurtis@healthystartjmt.org," Curtis added.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Please look to our next edition for news and events on this vital topic, along with our big activity: the Celebration of Mothers with Kiwanis.

