

Minutes for SHAC Meeting November 16, 2010

The SHAC committee met on November 16, 2010 in the boardroom at the Palacios ISD Administration Building. The meeting was called to order at 12:10pm by Amy Kubecka, Co-Chair for the 2010-2011 SHAC. The meeting began with the welcome and introduction of SHAC members and visitors.

Members present were: Amy Kubecka, Lisa Harper, Diane Koop, Larry Williams, Becky Avila, Amber Engel, Rita Cepak, Kay Lawson, Carolyn Kubecka.

Visitors present were: Vicki Adams, Lupita Montelongo, Peggy Scantlen, Madeline Rother, Paulette Hunter, Herbert Ressler.

Barriers to healthcare in the community were addressed and discussed among the group. One main topic brought up was uninsured students needing immunizations and healthcare in the community. Madeline Rother (retired registered nurse) mentioned that they had a Make a Difference Day last year which they set up a table in the community to assist individuals in filling out forms for Medicaid and CHIPS which resulted in zero attendance despite the heavily advertised event prior to the day. This year they decided to not set up the Make a Difference day due to the lack of interest and turnout in the community. Mrs. Rother stated that there is someone available through the Texas Department of Human Services to help with filling out forms for Medicaid and CHIPS program that they have used through the Food Pantry and that she would gladly pass on the phone number to anyone needing help with the forms. Another barrier addressed was the difficulty in getting appointments at our local healthcare facilities and transportation issues. School Nurse, Diane Koop stated that she has students with Medicaid that must see their assigned provider but cannot always get in to their doctor due to transportation problems i.e. no car or lack of funds for gas (which might be in Bay City or Port Lavaca) so they take their child to the local ER instead for a non-emergency type visit. East Side Principal, Carolyn Kubecka stated that there is a new clinic in Bay City that is open after hours. Mrs. Kubecka stated she would see if clinic has a flyer so that the school nurses could hand out to students as a resource. One of the parents mentioned that the South Texas Medical Clinics in Bay City, El Campo, and Wharton also have a walk-in clinic from 7-9pm. Superintendent, Vicki Adams said that she has been in contact with Don Bates from the Palacios Community Medical Center and that they are exploring the idea of extended clinic hours and considering getting another doctor at the facility but are looking for grants to help pay for this. Mrs. Rother mentioned she would like to investigate whether MEHOP would consider coming to Palacios. Vicki Adams stated that MEHOP had talked about coming to Palacios but would charge \$3000 and would only come a couple of days in the week. Members of the committee and visitors were asked to consider other possible solutions to these problems.

Illness prevention and health promotion in the school were also a topic of discussion. The school nurses recently sent letters home in regards to staph infections and prevention.

Upcoming events: The Texan mascot will come to Palacios on December 2 to talk about nutrition to the PE classes at East Side and Central. The mascot will ask questions regarding nutrition, and the football players and cheerleaders will answer them through a prerecorded video. The Mobile Dentist will be coming on Nov. 29 & 30 to Central and on Jan. 25 to Jr. High.

The meeting closed by discussing the date and time of the next SHAC meeting. The next SHAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2011 from 12-1pm.