

Lenawee Great Start Minutes-October 6, 2009 Physical Health

Members Present: Dr. Michele Gardner, Deana Smith, Christine Lee, Mike Kight, Mary Vallad, Terri Langton
Members Absent: Dr. Stephen Bachmeyer, Burt Fenby, Lisa Leader, Janet Schuler

Notes taken by Beth Docking for first part of meeting.

Objective 1-Promote efforts to provide all children 0-5 with health insurance.

*Several members indicated that with the two insurance programs that exist in Lenawee County there is probably only a small percentage of children who are uninsured.

*Discussed making sure community agencies have applications to both programs. Health Department can do it on-line when the family is in the office.

*Question: Is brochure/application available at the time a mother is discharged from the hospital with new baby? Does nurse or hospital worker discuss health care options when mother in hospital post birth? Contact Denise Baker to find out if information about these programs is available in the hospital setting.

MI Child contacts County Elementary Principals and discusses program on a yearly basis.

Objective 2: increase access to primary care providers for families with young children

*Members discussed that it is not that difficult to find a primary care doctor but it is the transportation issues and the language barriers that present the issue with keeping appointments.

*211 is helpful for referrals but may not be sensitive to Spanish speaking callers.

*Problem: Lenawee County OB/GYN doctors that accept Medicaid patients. Medicaid pays 1/3 of what a patient with insurance would pay.
*Fewer Doctors are accepting Medicaid patients. Family Health Center may have to be resource for those cannot get medical care elsewhere.

*University of Michigan Medical Center will provide prenatal care for Medicaid but the distant and transportation are impediments. Consistent prenatal care then becomes an issue.

*Local Medical Offices have lists of parents who will have child taken away when born due to court orders.