

**Attendance:** Pamela Kelly, Laretta Emerson, Marie Montano, and Valerie Butler

- **Welcome/Introductions**

Pamela Kelly, Chair, welcomed those on the call. Her main goal is to rebuild the alliance to make it stronger, and have outcomes we can see and make the region stronger. Everyone introduced themselves.

- **Review of health concerns in the central alliance, current status and group feedback**

1. **Obesity:** Laretta Emerson shared that Sedalia has a program called Healthy You that is working with the hospital. The Food Bank does not really have healthy food choices...survival focus. The After School program sends kids home with healthy food.
2. **Domestic Violence:** Marie Montano shared that domestic violence is a big issue in the African American and Latino communities and a major health concern. The shelters are full and they are trying to find resources for the other issues those in the shelters need.

The Chair proposed, after discussion with the group, that the alliance consider something around violence as a public health focus and activity in the central alliance. Marie suggested prevention of violence and to narrow the focus we all agreed on prevention of violence in family relationships. From a public health stand point, the effects of violence on a victim's health are severe. In addition to the physical injuries from the assault, battered women may suffer from chronic pain, gastrointestinal disorders, psychosomatic symptoms, and eating problems. Not to mention the fact that many advocates are increasingly recognizing devastating mental health effects of domestic violence.

Since many of these women are mothers, it then affects families as a whole. We will work on what specific intervention that the group would like to try in each county and who to partner with. Loretta discussed the low participation amongst all groups in general as one barrier to address.

- **Prioritizing issues of the alliance around community activities and organizations**

Who are good partners to help with our priority?

Marie Montano

WINGS

Eduardo Crispi

True North

Police Department

Shelters

CASA-Citizens Against Sexual Abuse

- **Minority population engagement in health programs**

1. They are not involved in Pettis County...in general.
2. Looking at number on staff at shelters, not a lot of shelters have bilingual staff.
3. There is an over representation in the shelters.
4. Messaging – what healthy/equal relationships looks like.

- **Community outreach-collaborators and consensus builders.**

The group was asked to think about new collaborators.

- **Identifying new community health partners and members.**

The group was asked to think about good partners to add to the alliance membership.

**Special notes:**

Next conference call meeting is May 9, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Please dial 866-630-9356 to be connected to the call.