

# HealthyCommunities

January - February 2004

## Workshop for disabled provides important information



*Larry Miller of Representative Stephen Maitland's office is shown above disseminating educational materials at his display booth at the Citizens with Disabilities Workshop.*

The Citizens with Disabilities Workshop, sponsored jointly by the Citizens with Disabilities Task Force and the Housing Task Force was held on November 17, 2003 at Gettysburg Hospital. The workshop attracted nearly 30 participants including disabled persons and their caregivers.

In addition to numerous exhibitors from various provider agencies the workshop featured 10 presenters covering a variety of housing issues and local resources for the disabled.

The workshop proved to be beneficial to those who attended, evident by the quality of issues raised during the question and answer period and subsequent feedback from the participants.

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## Visited our website lately....[www.healthyadamscounty.org](http://www.healthyadamscounty.org)

If you haven't checked out Healthy Adams County's website lately, you'll be surprised at the progress. The majority of individual task force pages has been updated to reflect mission statement, goals and objectives, action plans, Healthy People 2010 objectives, and membership lists. Updates are made on a regular basis and any changes should be sent to [Jen Williams](#), or call (717) 337-4137.

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## Message from the executive director



**Happy 2004** to all the volunteers who serve on the affiliated task forces and committees that make up our community health partnership, and to our many friends across Adams County (and beyond) who support their work.

The many challenges and achievements of our partnership members over this past year (2003) will soon be recognized and celebrated with the anticipated publication of our first formalized annual report. We hope to distribute this report before the end of this first quarter of 2004.

Looking ahead to the new year, the Healthy Adams County Board of Directors will be busy implementing a revised set of By-Laws that will impact governing board structure and partnership membership, including introduction of new standing committees. We will report on these changes as they unfold.

These developments are the result of our last strategic planning process, and are designed as part of a deliberate strategy to position Healthy Adams County for greater accountability, more productive support to our affiliated workgroups, and to better qualify us to seek additional sources of support (sustainability).

We are very pleased to report that Healthy Adams County was one of two local not-for-profit organizations to have been awarded a **College-Community Student Liaison by the Center for Public Service at Gettysburg College**. This position will be implemented in the spring semester, and was made possible through a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

The intent of this program is to strengthen already strong ties between Gettysburg College and Healthy Adams County through a service-learning partnership designed to match and apply the many special human resources of the College with identified community health and human service needs.

We are actively pursuing additional **coordinated** approaches to access the resources of other local educational institutions, their faculty, and students. These kinds of alliances should create structured ways to tap into the talents and time of a range of skills and interests that may directly benefit task forces and committees, as well as Healthy Adams County.

We also would like you to join us in recognizing Jennifer Williams' recent promotion to Administrative Assistant at Healthy Adams County.

Jen (who joined us in September as Administrative Secretary) will begin to assume greater responsibility for Board and Board committee functions, and for specific financial and other special programs and projects.

Please congratulate her on this achievement. (She likes candy).

*Bill Taft*

## Coalition to prevent teen pregnancy honored

Kudos go out to the Adams Coalition to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. The Coalition received an award from the Pennsylvania Coalition as an outstanding organization that has demonstrated leadership and made significant contributions to teen pregnancy prevention in its community. The award was presented at the state conference on October 21 in State College. Shown above with their recognition plaque are from left, coalition members Janet Wagner, Littlestown School District; Laura Reyka, Gettysburg Hospital; and Pamalee Lady, Penn Laurel Girl Scouts.



## Local school lends a hand



Natalie Weaver (second from left), Housing Task Force, is shown collecting personal toiletry items from Sister Phyllis Simmons and students from St. Francis Xavier School as part of a community drive held in November during National Homelessness Awareness Week. The drive was one of many events planned by the Housing Task Force to bring awareness of hunger and homelessness to the community.

## Working Together for the Health of our Community

### Domestic Violence Task Force

**Number of Task Force Members:** 45

**Recent Accomplishments:**

Several successful programs were held in 2003, including the winter 2003 presentation of the dating violence program, "Remote Control," held for 1,792 students at Bermudian Springs, New Oxford, and Gettysburg middle schools.

The month of May included a full day training for 60 police, EMS, human service agencies, probation and parole agencies, district attorney's offices and representatives from State Representative and Senator offices with nationally known trainer, Lt. Mark Wynn.

Also held in May was a comprehensive workshop for 15 members of the clergy community.



*Task force chairpersons shown above: Lisa Nevada (left) and Kathy Kolumban, Survivors, Inc.*

The task force also held their annual planning retreat to set goals for the coming year.

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Domestic Violence Awareness Night, held in October, brought in 75 people for local performances, testimonials, and speakers. NOVIS was awarded the community recognition award.

The task force also received a grant for \$5,000 from the Hoffman Trust for the purchase of digital cameras for 12 county police departments and established both a public awareness and medical advocacy committee.

**Upcoming Events& Programs:**

The Education Committee will again host the educational theatre production on dating violence, "Yellow Dress," in April 2004. The play will be shown at Gettysburg and Delone High Schools and for the public at Gettysburg College. Work is in progress to possibly add a few other county high schools.

**Other Task Forces that You Serve On:**

Kathy is a member of the Healthy Adams County Board, the Public Relations Committee, and the Membership Committee.

Lisa also serves on the Adams Coalition to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

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### Healthy Adams County at Chamber business fair



Healthy Adams County was one of 53 exhibitors at the recent Chamber business fair held on November 6, 2003 at Gettysburg High School. The event provided a venue for the partnership to share information on the organization and affiliated task forces.

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