

What's Working

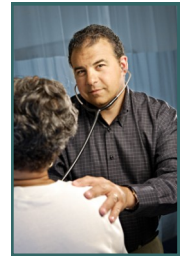


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Why Did I Get This Newsletter?

by Greg Dent, CHW President and CEO



The short answer is because we consider you a friend of Community Health Works. You are a VIP to us—a very interested person, who cares about efforts to help improve health and healthcare in Central Georgia.

To go briefly back over the basics:

- Community Health Works is a 501(c)(3), headquartered in Forsyth, GA.
- We were founded in 2001 with funding from the Medcen Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- We are focused on Central Georgia. We have a history of helping the uninsured. And we have grown into a regional center for health innovation—an organization willing to take chances and try out new ways to help the people in our area who are at risk of falling through the cracks of the healthcare system.

Currently we have two programs up and running and another in research and development. This newsletter is about them—and about what we are finding out and figuring out. That's why we call it "What's Working."

It will come in the mail or electronically—either way you want it—once a quarter. It'll never be longer than two pages. The articles will always be concise. And it will have some good pictures.

Send me an email at gdent@chw.org if you like it. Or if you don't. We're very interested in you and your opinions. We want to keep your friendship. You're a VIP.

Rx for the Uninsured News

by Joseph Andrews, Director of Care Management



We are able to help our *Rx for the Uninsured* members in a number of ways. If they don't have a doctor, we will find one for them. Our Care Managers are also great about doing general social service counseling and helping members find resources that they need. But one of the most important things we do is help members get their medicines free or at very low costs. Our members have no insurance and average incomes of about \$5,500. So paying for their medications is a big problem for most of them.

Our Member Services Assistants help members utilize the prescription pharmaceutical assistance programs (PPAP) of drug manufacturers. Through these programs, we acquire over \$100,000 of free medicines a month for our members. One of our longtime members told me, "I don't know what I would do without Community Health Works getting my medicines for me." For me, that sums up what we are all about.

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Central GA Cancer Coalition Report

by Gayle Bina, CGCC Executive Director



The Central Georgia Cancer Coalition joined forces with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, American Cancer Society, and others to host a two-day Cancer Seminar for Pastors, Clergy, and Religious leaders in Central Georgia in September, 2006. Keynote speaker Dr. Ron Mumbower from Jackson, MS, reminded pastors and religious leaders of their role in facilitating good cancer outcomes. With more than ten breakout sessions interspersed with a cancer survivor testimonial video, all in attendance returned to their faith families equipped to help cancer patients navigate the sometimes confusing maze of cancer care.

CGCC has been awarded a Georgia Breast Cancer License Tag Grant to provide free mammography screening and follow-up diagnostic tests for un- and under-insured women in Central Georgia. We have implemented the program in Monroe, Crawford, Peach, Dooly, Pulaski, Houston, Macon, Jones and Bibb counties. As of December 31, 2006, 99 patients had received mammograms through the program. In the first two months of 2007, we provided 100 more. The program will soon be available in additional counties.

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Monroe County Tax Collector Patsy Miller joined CGCC Executive Director Gayle Bina to show support for the Georgia Breast Cancer License Tag Program. CGCC uses grants from the program to furnish mammograms and diagnostic testing for low income women.

Report on Middle Georgia Multishare

By Kay Floyd, CHW Vice-President and COO



CHW is exploring using a "multi-share" model to provide health coverage for workers who have no access to health insurance through their employers. The name "multi-share" refers to the several sources of the dollars used to pay for medical services. The employee pays a small share. The employer pays a small share. And the remaining share or shares come from community funding, philanthropic funds, tax dollars, provider contributions, etc.

A multi-share uses a local network of health providers (doctors, hospitals, laboratories) who deliver care to covered employees and accept a payment schedule. Not all medical expenses are covered nor is coverage available outside of a specific area. And eligibility for coverage is limited. However, in other parts of the country, multi-shares have proven very beneficial to small businesses and their employees.



Charles Owens, Director of DCH's Office of Rural Health, Greg Dent, CHW CEO, and Sheila Freeman, CEO of the Spring Creek Health Cooperative were among the recent attendees at Rural Health Day at the Georgia General Assembly. "I think the Governor and the General Assembly are serious about finding innovative ways to improve health in rural Georgia," Dent said.

Current Report

As of 12/31/06

Total Uninsured Assessed	6,561
Current Uninsured Members	2,022
Total Grant Funds for Central GA	\$7,534,645
Free/Low Cost Medicines to Date	\$10,881,668
Total Health Services Coordinated	\$39,700,303