

healthy tomorrows

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Dayton Community • Wright State University • Sinclair Community College

HIEx™ Version 2.0 Takes Wing

Late in September 2005, **David Roberts**, the Center for Healthy Communities in-house software developer, completed Version 2.0 of the health information exchange database **HIEx™**, and users have since been accessing it on the production site. HIEx™ development

began with a primary focus on the demographics and eligibility information required to complete a Medicaid application. Working in partnership with

early users, primarily community health advocates, HIEx™ has been growing incrementally, developing new features to assist with managing client/patient information from multiple health and human services providers, including monitoring use of community resources and referring for needed services, recording workflow process, setting reminders for follow up and an enhanced search function. Now, in addition to the combination of data we use to ensure that clients/patients are only entered into HIEx™ once, we can also categorize records by agency, by primary case manager, in terms of services requested/referred to, and the agency that first entered a client/patient into HIEx™.

Another new feature is a section in the record to note household contacts so that we can record information on emergency contacts, primary care physicians, caseworkers and others. The data resident in the client/patient records can still electronically complete the new Healthy Start/Healthy Families Medicaid application and we have added the PRC used by Montgomery County. Finally, a scanning module now allows verification documentation, such as driver's license, birth certificate and proof of employment, to be added to any record and stored electronically. A number of our users have found that the functionalities of HIEx™ also support significant opportunities for workflow accountability as supervisors view and review the online work of their employees.

Current HIEx™ users include Community Health Advocates with Medicaid Outreach and Kinship Care, Montgomery County



Children's Services (MCCS) and the Dayton Public Schools nursing staff. MCCS and the Dayton Board of Education have entered into data sharing agreements with Wright State University to use HIEx™. MCCS is piloting the use of the system to evaluate its usefulness to capture required data and to provide quality reporting. Dayton Public Schools are very interested in the "shared record" concept. Imagine a community where no matter where you go to get health care or to access human services, your information is already available. Urgent care centers, school nurses, pediatricians, primary care physicians, social workers, counselors, and probation officers have the essential information that they need to work with you. In HIEx™ security is role based and can be controlled down to the individual data element allowing protection of sensitive information. HIEx™ provides a full HIPAA audit trail including time dated log tables detailing who viewed and who changed data. As an added precaution, no data is ever erased from the system. Although users will see the most recent information in a record, there is always the opportunity to go into the database and retrieve historic information on clients/patients.

HIEx™ is currently funded by subscriptions to use the system, building in sustainability from the start. The HIEx™ vision is to save money for the community by providing a shared information platform that offers all of the essential

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The Center for Healthy Communities is a community-academic partnership committed to improving the health and well-being of the community and enhancing health professions education.

Our partners include: the Dayton community; Boonshoft School of Medicine, School of Professional Psychology, Department of Social Work, College of Liberal Arts, and College of Nursing and Health at Wright State University; Sinclair Community College Division of Allied Health Technologies, and Division of Extended Learning and Human Services; Dayton Public Schools; Dayton Metropolitan Housing Authority; Montgomery County; Kettering Medical Center Network; Premier Health Partners; the Combined Health District of Montgomery County; many community and regional health, human services and faith-based organizations, and local and state governments.

In addition to the direct and in-kind support provided by our academic partners, the Center is funded through the Area Health Education Centers (AHEC), Montgomery County Children Services Board, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Mental Health, Planned Parenthood of the Greater Miami Valley, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services.



An Apple a Day

Health News from the Center for Healthy Communities Health Promotion Program

Teaming Up with Schools for Healthy Children

Action for Healthy Kids is a nationwide initiative dedicated to improving the health and educational performance of children through better nutrition and physical activity in schools. Healthy schools produce healthy students—and healthy students are better able to learn and achieve their true potential. Ohio has divided into 11 regional zones to work at the community level to implement healthy school environments. Our local Dayton

area, Zone 9, has offered several workshops on developing wellness teams, policies, school breakfast programs, physical activity and walking programs.

Schools across the country are putting together wellness councils to develop and implement school wellness policies to meet the federal mandate in the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. Policies must be in place by the start of the 2006 school year. This is a tremendous opportunity to help our local schools provide a healthier environment for our children and address the issue of child obesity. Schools must address issues such as vending, ala carte food sales and fund-raising, and physical activity. For more information on school wellness policies, visit www.schoolnutrition.org.

The Center for Healthy Communities and Action for Healthy Kids-Zone 9 recently teamed up to help schools put effective groups together to develop meaningful policies. They held two training programs for school personnel and interested community members to explain the law and provide tools to develop a wellness plan. Teams from 62 area schools attended. The programs provided schools with a one-two punch to address wellness: a step-by-step “how to” and then funds in the form of mini-grants to support wellness activities. Eight schools were awarded mini-grants of \$500 each to purchase materials to implement their wellness plan. Four schools were awarded mini-grants of up to \$1000 to begin new breakfast programs and to increase participation in existing programs. Funds to support this program are provided by United Parcel Service through a grant to Ohio Action for Healthy Kids.

Action for Healthy Kids-Zone 9 also assists parents and teachers who want to take a more active role in promoting health in their schools and who need some assistance in addressing their concerns with the school administration and school boards. We can provide local data, PowerPoint and DVD presentations as well as background studies and handouts to help drive home the point that something must be done now to address the epidemic of overweight, sedentary and undernourished children in our community.

Action for Healthy Kids-Zone 9, which includes the Dayton-Springfield area, is seeking new members. If you are interested in influencing school health policy and promoting child health, please

attend and see how you can become involved. For more information, contact Kay Parent at (937) 775-1103 or kay.parent@wright.edu, or visit the Action for Healthy Kids Website at www.actionforhealthykids.org or the Ohio Action For Healthy Kids Website at www.childrenshungeralliance.org/AFHK.

An area elementary school nurse interested in promoting good nutrition in kids had surveyed her students to determine what healthy choices they might eat if given the choice. She knew that it did little good for the school to offer healthy foods that the children would not eat. The Center for Healthy Communities analyzed the data and produced a report for her. Following is a list of the students' favorite foods and least favorite foods, most which had never been tried.

Top 10 favorite foods

Grades K – 3

Apple
Corn
Grapes
Banana
Orange
Carrot
Apple juice
Orange juice
Grape juice
Strawberry

Grades 4-7

Potato
Pineapple
Apple
Grapes
Apple juice
Watermelon
Banana
Corn
Orange juice
Strawberry

10 least favorite foods

Grades K – 3

Eggplant*
Artichoke*
Rhubarb*
Brussels sprouts
Fig*
Dates*
Beets*
Avocado*
Sauerkraut
Radish*
* least tried

Grades 4-7

Brussels sprouts
Eggplant*
Avocado*
Artichoke*
Figs*
Dates*
Beets
Squash
Chinese snow pea*
Asparagus
* least tried

Women's Health Month 2005 Grantees

For the past twenty years, Women's Health Month (WHM), a program unique to Ohio, has supported community education on women's health issues. The Center for Healthy Communities is designated an Area Health Education Center (AHEC) for Region IV in Ohio and contracts with the **Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention**



Program at the Ohio Department of Health to implement Women's Health Month activities in our region. Community organizations and agencies are funded at amounts ranging from \$500 to \$1300 to plan and present workshops, conferences, and health fairs on women's health during the month of September. In 2005, the Center awarded eight grants to support WHM activities for women in Clark, Champaign, Greene, Miami, Montgomery and Preble counties. Over 1000 women participated in the events that ranged from half-day forums on women's health issues to exercise training sessions to empowering lectures by nationally known women. Congratulations to the following grantees for participating in Women's Health Month 2005 and reaching out to women in our community with education and support:

- **Antioch College**

September 25, 2005 – Program/Training: “Understanding the Health Implications of Violence Against Women”

- **CareSource Ohio**

September 17, 2005 – Workshop: “Tea for Two: The Type 2 Diabetes Epidemic”

- **Combined Health District of Montgomery County**

September 21, 2005 – Workshop: “The Woman Within: Taking Time to Care”

- **Darke County Combined Health District**

September 29, 2005 – Program: “Women to Women Wellness in Darke County”

- **Greene County Combined Health District**

September 7, 2005 – Workshop: “An Evening of Empowerment – Let's Be Honest: The Truth about HIV/AIDS – It Can Happen to You”

- **Tri-County Women's Network**

September 27, 2005 – Four presentations: “Empowering Yourself”

- **Wesley Community Center**

September 30, 2005 – Fitness Instruction: “Exercising into Health”

- **Womanline of Dayton, Inc.**

September 2, 12, 21, and 30, 2005 – Interactive classes: “Self-Esteem”

The Ohio Department of Health will be offering limited funding for **Women's Health Month 2006** for events that address women's health issues during the month of September. Please contact Carla Lachecki by e-mail at carla.lachecki@wright.edu or by telephone at (937) 775-1125. Application deadline is April 10, 2006.

Health Promotion Award Nominations Sought

The Center for Healthy Communities will present its **10th Annual Health Promotion Awards** at the Center's Annual Meeting in June 2006. Last year, the Healthy Dayton Coalition received the award in the Established Program Category, and in previous years, new and established programs have been recognized, including AIDS Resource Center Ohio, Health Care Interventions, Brighter Futures, the Good Neighbor Partnership, Project Well Being, Boost America!, and Les Femmes Concerned Citizens for Cancer. Winners were presented with a plaque of recognition.

The Center is seeking nominations of community-based programs for this year's awards for the New Program and Established Program categories. To be eligible for the awards, community-based health promotion programs must: 1) have been developed and implemented by two or more organizations, 2) serve the residents of the greater Dayton area, and 3) involve the collaboration of two or more groups/organizations. A new program is any program that meets the above criteria, has been in existence for two years or less, and has shown the potential to assist individuals to make positive lifestyle changes that will contribute to health and wellness. An established program is any program that meets the above criteria, has been in existence for more than two years, and has demonstrated effectiveness in promoting positive lifestyle changes that contribute to health and wellness.

For information about the Healthy Promotion Award, please contact Carla Lachecki at (937) 775-1125 or by email, carla.lachecki@wright.edu. To download a nomination form, please visit the CHC web site at: <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc/events/healthpromotion.htm>.

Nominations will be accepted up to **April 21, 2006**. Self-nominations are permitted.

CHC Strategic Plan: Strategic Initiative I

by Carla Clasen, MPH, RN, Co-Director, Center for Healthy Communities

In the last issue of **healthy tomorrows**, I outlined the recently approved strategic plan of the Center for Healthy Communities (CHC). This is the first in a series of articles where I will discuss the specific ways in which the Center works to achieve its mission as a “community-academic partnership

committed to improving the health and well-being of the community, educating its health professionals and serving as a force for change” through implementation of strategic initiatives.

The first initiative is to develop strong partnerships and expand existing ones among community, educators and providers. It is fitting that this initiative is first, because the Center for Healthy Communities would never have come into existence without partnerships. Initially created as “Partners for Community Health Development” through funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Community Mutual Insurance Company, the Ohio Board of Regents, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Dayton Foundation, the Center has worked hard to develop and maintain good working relationships with many individuals and organizations.

The Center has identified three levels of partnership to describe the relationship between the Center and its partners. At Level 1, CHC has a presence on the partner’s board, task force, committee or vice versa, or works with the partner on a specific, time limited program. At Level 2, a stronger relationship exists between CHC and its partner organization, i.e. sharing of resources, space, time, money, etc. At Level 3, an integral relationship exists between CHC and the partner organization, i.e. CHC works within the organization on an ongoing project or on more than one program. This article would be far too long if all of the Center’s partnerships were detailed here. However, we can briefly highlight several collaborations:

- A number of health related organizations partner with the Center to through **Healthy Dayton**. The Healthy Dayton partnership shares information and

Strategic Initiative I: Develop strong partnerships and expand existing ones among community, educators and providers

resources with the goal of inspiring health in the Dayton community through supporting increased physical activity and better nutrition. Specific projects include: information dissemination about walking trials, advocating that local restaurants offer healthy choices, and other health related programs. Please visit the Healthy Dayton web site at <http://www.med.wright.edu/CHC/healthydayton/index.htm> to see the many partner organizations.

- The **HB 130 Task Force** has served as a state-wide model in implementing and monitoring a new policy. The Task Force was formed in response to Ohio House Bill 130, passed in 2004, which allowed grandparents who are raising their grandchildren to obtain either a power of attorney (POA) or a caretaker authorization affidavit (CAA) for the purposes of school enrollment and obtaining medical care. The Task Force has been successful in modifying the affidavits to meet Montgomery County Juvenile Courts requirements, developed instructions on how to file the affidavits, and provided several community presentations to educate the public on the POA and the CAA. The Task Force meets monthly to discuss updates, disseminate new information, and the monitor number of filings. The Task Force is made up of Montgomery County Juvenile Courts, Montgomery County Children Services, Montgomery County Combined Health District, Legal Aid of Western Ohio, and several public school districts.



- **Action for Healthy Kids Zone 9** is a partnership of organizations and individuals in the Dayton area interested in school health. The group is dedicated to improving the health and educational performance of Ohio’s children through better nutrition and physical activity by promoting a healthy school environment. Goals are to 1) expand participation in the School Breakfast Program; 2) ensure that healthy snacks and foods are provided in vending machines, school stores and other venues within the school’s control; and 3) provide adequate co-curricular physical activity programs, including fully inclusive intramural programs and physical activity clubs. For more information visit the Ohio Action For Healthy Kids website at www.childrenshungeralliance.org/AFHK.

In the next issue of **healthy tomorrows**, we will discuss the second of the Center’s strategic initiatives, “Educate students and providers to improve health care service delivery.”

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contributors: Kate Cauley, Carla Clasen, Mary Crimmins, Annemarie Halfpap, Carla Lachecki, Kay Parent

For more information or to make suggestions, please call Kate Cauley, Ph.D., Center Director, at (937) 775-1114. Contributions to the Center may be made through the Wright State University Foundation. All contributions are tax deductible.

See past issues of **healthy tomorrows** on the Web at <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc/pub.htm>

Curricula Development Projects Underway for State Agencies

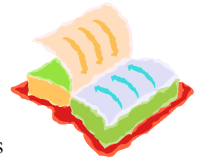
The Center for Healthy Communities is involved in two projects that involve developing curricula to enhance health professions education. The Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) and Ohio Civil Service Employees Association (OCSEA) Workforce Development is

supporting the Center to develop and pilot a course for ODMH Behavioral Health Care Therapeutic Program Workers (TPWs). In 2000, the Center did surveys and focus groups with Behavioral Healthcare Organization (BHO) employees and identified 26 core competencies that TPWs should possess. Dawn Snyder Associates develop an outline of a curriculum that would address all the competencies, and the Center was selected to develop "Mental Illness and Its Treatment in Adults," one of the major components of the curriculum, as a pilot. This is being offered on-site in two locations, Summit BHO and the Northfields campus of Northcoast BHO. The course carries college credit, and Cuyahoga Community College and Cincinnati State Technical College are

partnering with the Center and the BHOs to teach the class in winter quarter 2006. ODMH and Workforce Development's goal is to expand partnerships with community colleges so that this curriculum can be available to all state BHO Therapeutic Program Workers at their work sites.

The second curriculum development project is sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). The Bureau of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction, Division of Prevention is in the second year of a *State Cardiovascular Health Programs Capacity Building* grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ODH is contracting with the Center for Healthy Communities to establish community academic partnerships among community

colleges and health and human services organizations in at least three communities in



Ohio. These partnerships are to explore the education of community members as Community Health Workers through credit bearing courses in community colleges, to in turn expand population based strategies for heart disease and stroke prevention activities. The Center is modifying its existing Community Health Advocacy course, offered at Sinclair Community College, for use in these other communities. The Center will also develop a course specific to cardiovascular health education for community health workers.

For more information related to the Center for Healthy Communities' curricula projects visit our web site at:
<http://www.med.wright.edu/chc>
 and click on "Programs"

New and Improved: CHC Web Site

During the past year, the Center for Healthy Communities (CHC) has been busy working toward a better Internet presence. Given that the World Wide Web is becoming more and more of a tool benefiting the community, the old CHC web site needed to catch up with the times. We are proud to say that through the efforts of **Annemarie Halfpap**, Research Support Technician, we have done just that.

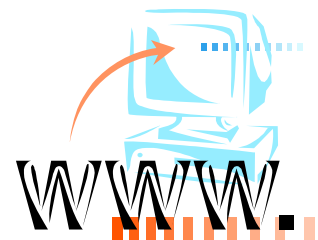
The need to improve and update the CHC web site became all the more urgent as the site began hosting special web sites for its associated programs. These included Healthy Dayton and the Kinship Caregiver Coalition (KCC). Their sites were launched with the help of Barbara B. Denison, Assistant Professor of Management Information Systems at Raj Sooin College of Business, Wright State University and her students. As part of their MIS 495 course, students were assigned to put together the basic structure and design for

the sites. At the same time, Annemarie Halfpap was redesigning the larger CHC web site to improve usability, accessibility, and maintenance. As the associated sites were developed, Annemarie integrated them into the new CHC site.

- Healthy Dayton is a collaborative of organizations working to improve the health of the Dayton area. Its web site serves as a coordinated outlet to heighten public awareness, share existing resources, and help residents choose lifestyle behaviors that improve their health. To see the Healthy Dayton web site, go to: <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc/healthydayton/>
- Kinship care refers to a temporary or permanent arrangement in which a relative, or any non-relative adult who has a relationship or bond with the child, is caring for that child in the place of its parents. The Kinship

Caregivers Coalition (KCC) is there to help these caregivers access all the resources available to them. The KCC web site serves kinship caregivers and community agencies who work with them by providing a place to locate resources, download legal forms and learn more about the program. To view the Kinship Caregiver Coalition site, go to: <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc/kinship/>

Now with all three sites up and running, Annemarie is beginning work on another associated site, HealthLink Information Exchange™ (HIE™). The Center for Healthy Communities web site can be found at: <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc/>





About and in the Community

Community Health Advocates Continue to Serve in the Dayton Area

by Kimberly Conner, Community Health Advocate Program Coordinator

The Community Health Advocate (CHA) program is an integral component of the Center for Healthy Communities (CHC). Begun in September 1992, the program evolved out of a request from community members who gathered for focus groups during the early stages of the Center for Healthy Communities. The community wanted someone who “looks and talks like them”—someone who would inform them of

community resources as well as guide them through the process to receive help. The Center defines “health” broadly to include issues of basic survival and issues related to health promotion and disease prevention as well as access and use of basic healthcare services. The Community Health Advocates, guided by this definition of health, are educated as generalists through ALH-210, “Introduction to Community Health Advocacy” at Sinclair Community College.

Community Health Advocates are active in a number of CHC programs. Currently the Community Health Advocate Program is involved in Medicaid outreach that identifies families who qualify and enrolls them in the Healthy/Start Healthy Families program. HealthLink Miami Valley, which is a coalition of local health and human service agencies, public schools, and faith-based organizations, continues to work together to better identify and serve the

underserved members of our community through community health workers. ALH-210 “Introduction to Community Health Advocacy Course” is offered at Sinclair Community College. This 4 credit hour course, required of all Community Health Advocates, is only one of a dozen offered throughout the United States. The course curriculum consists of advocacy (role definition, job readiness and ethical practices); community assessment (definition of community strengths and resources); communication and conflict management; documentation; health (definition, health promotion/disease prevention, various health care plans, barriers to improved health, health concerns for specific groups); and community resources. The course will be offered spring quarter 2006 at Sinclair Community College. For more information, see the announcement later in this article.

From March to August 2005 Community Health Advocates attended 43 health fair events, providing attendees with information about local health and human services resources. CHAs routinely speak directly with close to half of the health fair participants. In spring 2005, they worked with 1,071 of the 2,425 attendees.

Are you interested in Community Health, Community Resources, or Health Professions?

The Center for Healthy Communities is offering through Sinclair Community College, Allied Health Technologies Department:

ALH 210 – Introduction to Community Health Advocacy
March 27 – June 9, 2006
Tuesday and Thursday
4:30 – 6:45 p.m.

Classes will be held at WSU Kettering Center, 140 E. Monument Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45402. For location information contact: Annemarie Halfpap at (937) 775-1114 or go to <http://www.wright.edu/cpd/aboutus/location.html>.

The guarantee deadline date for financial aid for spring quarter is February 15, 2006. The FAFSA information needs to be in the financial aid office by that date. Students should be applying online at least a week prior for the office of financial aid to receive the information. They will have some scholarships available for spring quarter with a deadline date of February 17, 2006. For more information contact: Deborah Back, Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships (937) 512-2781.

HLMV Trainings for 2006

March 28, 2006

Mental Health Services for Children and Adolescents

June 27, 2006

Community medical services for low income residents and Medicaid Managed Care

Sept. 26, 2006

To be determined

Dec. 5, 2006

Health disparities and diversity in our changing community



All trainings are from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and are held at Madison Lakes Park Lodge, 581 Olive Road, Dayton, Ohio 45427. For more information about trainings, call (937) 775-1114. To download a workshop brochure, go to: <http://www.med.wright.edu/chc/programs/hlmvtrainings.htm>

HealthLink Miami Valley Participates in National Survey

HealthLink Miami Valley was one of two Ohio programs that participated in a national survey of more than 100 health information exchange initiatives nationwide. These initiatives are working toward faster, safer, and better quality health care information exchange, according to a report released this week by the eHealth Initiative Foundation (eHI) in Washington, D.C.

HealthLink has developed a unique software system that tracks use and access to health care by uninsured individuals and differs from many other health information exchanges in that the focus has been in the public sector. Since 2001, HealthLink Miami Valley has worked exclusively in Montgomery County but recently started working with organizations in the Greater Miami Valley to establish a regional health information organization.

The new eHI report analyzed trends in the exchange of health information from more than 100 efforts across the country, representing initiatives in 45 states and the District of Columbia. The study shows that state, regional or community efforts are rapidly advancing through the steps necessary to electronically exchange health information in an effort to improve healthcare quality and safety and health care savings while preserving the security of individual healthcare information.

The survey was conducted by the eHealth Initiative Foundation with support by the Health Resources and Services Administration Office of the Advancement of Telehealth of the Department of Health and Human Services. The complete survey report is available at www.ehealthinitiative.org.

“This information is invaluable to HealthLink Miami Valley because it gives us a bearing on our level of progress in relation to other efforts,” states Katherine Cauley, Ph.D., director, Center for Healthy Communities, and associate professor in the Department of Community Health, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. “We face common challenges, so we’re interested to

learn more about the innovative ways other regions and communities have resolved some of these pressing issues.” Cauley is a member of eHI’s working group for connecting communities.

Since 2003, the eHealth Initiative Foundation has been working with leaders at the state, regional and community levels to build multi-stakeholder collaborations focused on mobilizing healthcare information across organizations to improve the quality, safety and efficiency of care.

At the nexus of HealthLink Miami Valley is the Center for Healthy Communities. CHC staff work alongside community partners to address systemic public health problems, research policy and practice issues, and provide technical assistance, program evaluation and continuing education for health professionals. The Center for Healthy Communities co-sponsored the first Ohio Health Information Technology Summit in Columbus last October and continues to work with the Health Policy Institute of Ohio on the Second Ohio HIT Summit meeting planned for October 17, 2005.

The eHealth Initiative and its foundation are independent, non-profit affiliated organizations whose missions are to drive improvement in the quality, safety and efficiency of healthcare through information and information technology. For more information about the report or about HealthLink Miami Valley, contact Mary Crimmins, Center for Healthy Communities at (937) 775-1122.

HIEx™, continued from page 1

elements of a good management information system at low cost. This sharing of resources will save money in development or purchase of systems. Additionally the time saved by sharing the record across organizations and sectors is a major efficiency shift. In the health services sector, quality of care will improve as access to information at the point of care is available across organizational boundaries.

In October 2005, CHC submitted a grant application to the Connecting Communities for Better Health Program that described a focus on health information exchange centered on children. Current HIEx™ users/organizations—all in the category of health and human services providers—including child protective services, public schools, the public health department, the children’s hospital, and kinship care services and Medicaid/CHIP outreach programs (the last two housed at the Center for Healthy Communities at Wright State University) have developed

an interest in expanding HIEx™ to include components of a Community Child Health Record (CCHR). CHC staff have been exploring the utility of the CCHR with new and existing stakeholders. There is strong consensus to use the CCHR as a strategy to shift the focus in the community from organization-centric health information technology development to patient-centric health information exchange development. Stakeholders are interested in both expanding the numbers of physicians using health information technology and in demonstrating the value of health information exchange as a means to document improved quality of care.

If you are interested in a demonstration of HIEx™ or would like to explore the possibility of becoming a subscriber organization, please contact Mary Crimmins at (937) 775-1122 or mary.crimmins@wright.edu.

Coming and Going

by *Kate Cauley, Ph.D., Director, Center for Healthy Communities*

In the category of planning to go, but coming back instead—as those of you who attended the January Community Advisory Board meeting learned, I was unsuccessful in my bid for the Chairperson's position in the Department of Community Health. However, the new chair, Arthur Pickoff, MD, persuaded me that my work was not yet finished as Director of the Center for Healthy Communities, and I agreed to stay on in a leadership capacity. Additionally, at my request, and in recognition of the excellent work Carla Clasen did as Interim Director, she has been named Co-Director of the Center. I think this innovative team approach to the leadership of the organization will provide an even stronger collaborative model as the Center moves through the second decade of working to improve the health of the community and to enhance health professions education.

Lori Grooms has been with Wright State University for almost ten years. And in a way, she still is with Wright State University, now as a social work student in the College of Liberal Arts. Before working with the Center for Healthy Communities Lori worked with the University Medical Services Association. We were delighted when she joined the Center staff in 1998. Over the

years Lori assumed a wide range of responsibilities from managing fiscal affairs for the Center to staffing coalition meetings and assisting with grant funded projects. Very early in her career at the Center Lori demonstrated a commitment to completing her higher education degree, first as a student at Sinclair Community College, and then as a student at Wright State. Although we were sorry to see Lori move on, we are very proud of her accomplishments and look forward to working with her again when she is a social worker with one of the Center's partners from the health and human services community. Congratulations on a job well done with the Center, Lori. We will miss you.

Donna Thiede had a short but highly productive career with the Center for Healthy Communities. Donna joined the staff just under a year ago having worked previously at Samaritan North Hospital and Capital Health Services. As a Kinship Navigator, Donna worked with families where grandparents and other non-parent relatives have responsibility for raising their grandchildren, nieces, or nephews. She helped initiate HIEx™ the new data management system for the Kinship Navigator Program, and brought a wealth of skills and experience to her work with the Center. Though we are sorry to lose Donna, she has not gone far. She has moved into a full time position at Wright State working with the Department of Internal Medicine in Boonshoft School of Medicine. We wish you well, Donna.

Charter funding: The W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Community Mutual Insurance Company, Ohio Board of Regents Action Fund, Ohio Department of Health and the Dayton Foundation.