

A Fond Farewell from Lacrica Olson and Megan Bebb



As I leave my position with Buffalo County Community Partners and Positive Pressure Coalition, I leave with a humble heart. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with so many great leaders in Buffalo County, both youth and adults.

Thank you for your continuous support of the work of the coalition and prevention. I am happy to have been a part of making Buffalo County a HEALTHIER place to live and work. I encourage all of you, to continue to be a part of something larger than yourself, and MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the community and in the world.

Lacrica

Coalition Coordinator

I have enjoyed my time with Buffalo County Community Partners and the Activate Buffalo County Coalition. I know that I am leaving this position having gained more knowledge and personal development than I would have dreamed possible.

Thank you so much to the coalition and board members, volunteers and Community Challenge participants who have shared so much with me in this experience.

My husband and I are moving to Kentucky, but we will not forget the time that we've had in Kearney.

Megan

Marketing Coordinator



Buffalo County Medication Take Back Set for April 30

Positive Pressure, a coalition of Buffalo County Community Partners, has partnered with the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, Good Samaritan Hospital and Two Rivers Public Health Department (TRPHD) for a Medication Take Back Event, Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The event will be held in the north parking lot of Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. "Any unused or expired over-the-counter and prescription medications will be accepted," Lacrica Olson, coalition coordinator, said. "However, we will not accept needles or sharps at this event."

According to TRPHD, unused medications may be accidental health threats to children and pets, and can contaminate the environment when they get into ground water.

For more information, contact Two Rivers Public Health Department at 1-888-669-7154.



Spotlight on SPF-SIG: Friends Program

by April Roggasch

The Friends Program of Kearney is a mentoring program for elementary children. It has been in operation within the Kearney Public Schools since 1978. The Friends Program is funded through the United Way of the Kearney Area, Buffalo County Community Partners (BCCP) and private donations. Their mission is to promote personal development of youth through positive one on one role modeling. The Friends

Program supports the power of volunteerism through friendships between adults and elementary school age children. The program provides the opportunity for Adult Friends to develop leadership and communication skills and for Little Friends to experience and develop healthy relationships.

Since 1978 the organization has served 2,127 elementary students in the Kearney Public Schools and has engaged 2,350 high school/college students; and other community adults, in a positive community service activity.

During 2009-2010, the Friends Program expanded its mentoring program to Pleasanton Public School; and during 2010-2011 Ravenna and Elm Creek schools. Pleasanton currently has seven high school students meeting with 8 elementary students. Ravenna has four high school students meeting with four elementary students. Elm Creek has one student who will begin this month.

The goal is to further expand the Friends mentoring program into at least two more rural schools. These rural mentoring programs are funded in partnership with BCCP, under the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG), which is focused on preventing alcohol use among persons 17 and under.

Friends Program
 2715 9th Ave.
 Kearney, NE 68845
 236-2036
 email: friendsprogram@msn.com

April Roggasch In case of emergencies, call: Dan Speirs
 Bus. (308) 236-2036 Res. (308) 233-9721
 Res. (308) 293-1438 Res. (308) 236-9770

Community Partners Adds Three New Members to Board



Cortney Geisler



Matthew Mims



Marion Richmond

Community Partners has filled three more seats on the board of directors.

Cortney Geisler is an APRN at Central Health Services; Matthew Mims is a professor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney; and Marion Richmond is the Nurse Manager at Kearney Clinic.



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ACTIVATE BUFFALO COUNTY.ORG

A Coalition of Buffalo County Community Partners



Activate Buffalo County Launches New Website Design

Activate Buffalo County, a coalition of Buffalo County Community Partners, recently launched a new Website design at www.ActivateBuffaloCounty.org. The coalition focuses on active living and healthy eating, and designing our communities so that the healthy choices the priority.

On the Activate Buffalo County Website, you can find events in Buffalo County and Nebraska to help you stay active, a directory of programs that are available in Buffalo County, the Active Blog with entries by our staff, coalition members and intern to encourage healthy eating and active living, as well as resources and links to our partners.

www.ActivateBuffaloCounty.org

Calendar of Events

- **Activate Buffalo County** meets on the first Monday of each month, 1:30-3 p.m., Cash-Wa Board Room. For more information: staff@bcchp.org or www.ActivateBuffaloCounty.org
- **Positive Pressure Coalition** meets on the first Tuesday of each month, 12-1 p.m., Region 3 Conference Room. For more information: lolson@bcchp.org or www.bcchp.org
- **Buffalo County Tobacco Free Coalition** meets on the first Thursday of each month, 1:15-1:15 p.m., Region 3 Conference Room. For more information: jbrown@region3.net
- **Buffalo County Health Ministry Network** meets on the second Thursday of each month, 12-1 p.m., Holy Cross Lutheran Church. For more information: (308)865-7741
- **Youth Advisory Board** For more information: www.bcyab.org
March 8: Youth Day at the Capitol, Buffalo County Youth travel to the State Capitol to meet with Senators.
- **Buffalo County Housing Coalition** meets on the fourth Monday of each month, 1:15 p.m., Miller & Associates. For more information: candy@miller-engineers.com
- **Buffalo County Housing Senate** meets on the fourth Monday of each month, 7 p.m., Location TBD. For more information: candy@miller-engineers.com
- **TIPS Trainings** For more information: lolson@bcchp.org or www.bcchp.org

Our Mission

Buffalo County Community Partners is a county-wide, non-profit organization with a mission to assess, promote and strengthen the health of Buffalo County citizens. Community Partners facilitate change through the recruitment and training of volunteers and the creation of coalitions to impact priority issues that reach all corners of the county.

Partner with us!

If you would like to be a partner with Buffalo County Community Partners through a financial donation, please contact Denise Zwiener or donate online at www.bcchp.org

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