

Volume 2, Issue 2

Fall/Winter 2005

DMF HEALTHY DOSE NEWSLETTER

YOUR

HEALTH

IS OUR

FOUNDATION

DMF Partners with Impact Foundation to Attract Charitable Dollars

Dakota Medical Foundation is excited to announce our partnership with Impact Foundation (Impact). Impact is dedicated to providing innovative charitable solutions to donors, their families and advisors while improving the efficiency and effectiveness of non-profit organizations. It has a broad, charitable mission focused on important donor driven charitable interests in North Dakota and Minnesota - allowing it to attract resources and lead initiatives designed to measurably address many societal issues both within and beyond the scope of DMF's restricted mission and service area.

DMF's interest in spearheading the establishment of Impact is a visionary action to prepare for future health-related challenges. In the next twenty-five years, the workforce will narrow while the demand on the health care system will significantly increase due to an aging population. Notably, in the year 2030, there will be one person drawing Social Security benefits for every two people in the work force. Now is the time to take action to adequately prepare to effectively address our future health-care needs. By partnering with Impact, DMF will be able to work with high net worth donors interested in establishing "charitable family accounts" dedicated to investing in health care as well as other critical areas such as economic development, education and training, and social services.

While Impact is an independent public charity with a separate governing board, Impact shares office space and has entered into a contract for services with DMF for the administrative support associated with operating a high-energy charitable organization.

Created in 2004, Impact is already off to an impressive start. It has received over \$1.5 million in grants, contributions and commitments, and established two charitable funds - the Alex Stern and Dakota Certified Development Funds. The Impact Institute for Innovation and Effectiveness has also been launched to provide consulting services to measurably improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health-related non-profits. To date, the Institute has assisted in developing nine measurable strategic plans and eight innovative fundraising systems. Starting in January 2006, the Institute will begin working with an additional six health-related organizations to develop sustainable fundraising systems.

The Impact-DMF partnership represents an innovative charitable structure designed to attract more resources while also improving the effectiveness of non-profit organizations in a strategic effort to address many societal challenges in a more measurable, highly efficient manner.

DMF Establishes New Matching Gift Program

To encourage charitable giving in the region, DMF's Board of Directors has established a new matching gift program for Foundation membership and staff. Through the matching gift program, members and staff may designate contributions to DMF for current active DMF grant recipients or scholarship funds which will be matched dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$5,000 per person per fiscal year (October 1 – September 30). This year, the board has approved up to a maximum of \$50,000 in matching funds. To qualify for the matching dollars, donors must make a minimum cumulative contribution of \$500.00 to DMF and may designate up to a maximum of three recipients per fiscal year. Requests for matching gifts must be made in December and June of each year. For further details on the matching gift program or for a list of current active DMF grant recipients and scholarship funds contact Cindy Eggl at 271-0263.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM DAKOTA MEDICAL FOUNDATION



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Exciting New Developments in Covering Kids & Families Initiative

Effective August 2005, the staffing of the 1-877 KIDS NOW help-line was transferred from DMF to the State Department of Human Services. This change was made to coordinate coverage programs and help-line resources into one statewide centralized information and application processing center. The *central intake center* offers consumers and volunteers information, applications, and screening assistance for North Dakota health coverage programs including Caring for Children, Healthy Steps, and Medicaid. This change supports the evolution of the VISION SYSTEM, which is the computerized eligibility system that was recently updated through a \$92,000 grant from DMF to allow for shared application information between coverage programs. A new joint short form (effective 7/1/05) integrates application information allowing children and families to apply for available low-cost/free health coverage programs in a single application.

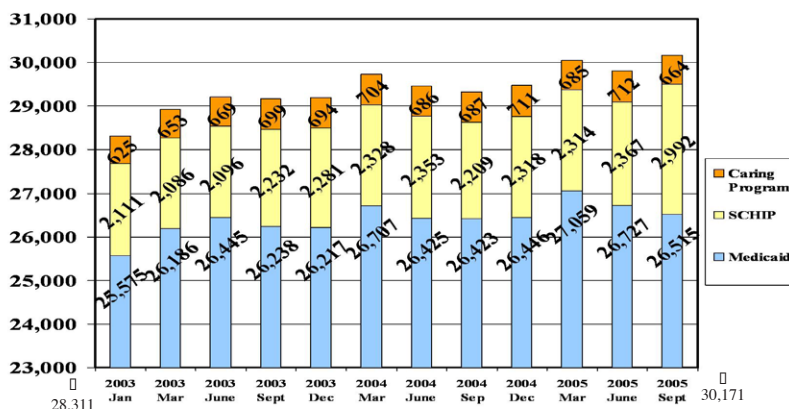


During *Cover the Uninsured Week 2005*, Covering Kids & Families took the opportunity to thank individuals and organizations for being top referral sources to the 1-877 KIDS NOW help-line in an effort to connect more of the state's uninsured children to existing health coverage programs. Top referring schools/pre-schools and insurance agencies in each North Dakota region were acknowledged with a *Caring Counts* award and with first aid supplies marketing 1-877 KIDS NOW.

Jamestown Head Start receives *Caring Counts* award ~ May 5, 2005

Total Children Enrolled Per Coverage Program Since January 2003 + 1,860 Enrolled Children (6% Statewide increase)

Total Children Enrolled September 2005 - 30,171



HURRY . . . Time is Running out to Take Advantage of Special Tax Incentives

In response to the record levels of charitable giving due to Hurricane Katrina and to encourage continued giving to local charitable organizations, Congress has enacted the *Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005* (KETRA) which provides several tax incentives for individuals who make charitable gifts* of cash by the end of the year. KETRA provides for a temporary suspension on deduction limits for gifts of *cash* to qualified charities made during the period beginning August 28, 2005 and ending December 31, 2005. Donors may deduct qualified charitable gifts of cash in amounts up to 100% of their adjusted gross income (AGI).

Donors interested in taking advantage of the current tax incentives may choose to make charitable gifts from a number of sources such as Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), 401(k), 403(b) plans or other similar retirement accounts. Under the new tax law, donors can make a gift to a qualified charity of any amount withdrawn from an IRA or other retirement plan before the end of the year and deduct the entire amount in 2005.

Individuals interested in capitalizing on the current tax incentives should consult with their tax advisor to determine the best way to take advantage of these special giving opportunities. Everyone's circumstances are different and as a result, state income tax as well as federal tax laws may affect your charitable plans.

*KETRA does not require that charities receiving gifts from individuals be engaged in providing direct relief to Hurricane Katrina victims.

DMF's Dakota Communities Access Program Improving Access to Health Care

DMF's Dakota Communities Access Program 15 Community Resource Coordinators (funded through a \$2.6 million dollar federal grant) continue to work one-on-one with individuals to help them enroll in health care coverage and other programs. Community Resource Coordinators have been very successful in helping people access programs and increasing reimbursement to medical facilities. The numbers below demonstrate that success.

Community Resource Coordinators have also been actively educating North Dakota seniors about Medicare's new prescription drug benefit. Medicare Part D will be implemented in January 2006 and will provide prescription drug coverage for Medicare eligible seniors. Low income seniors will also be eligible to receive extra help in paying for their prescription medications.

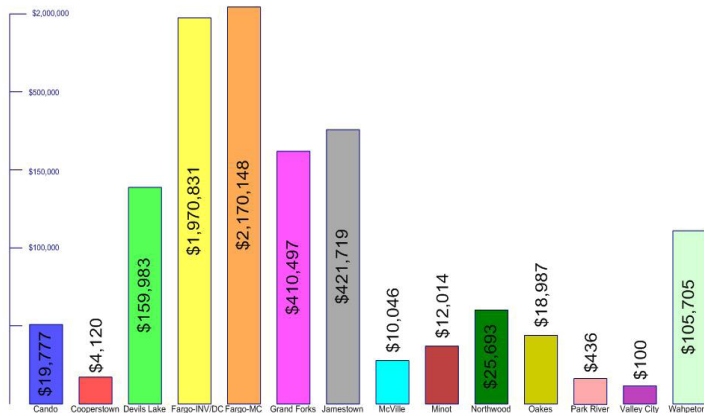
DMF is part of a statewide task force committed to educating and enrolling the estimated 107,000 North Dakota seniors eligible for Medicare Part D. Community Resource Coordinators have organized numerous educational events about Part D for seniors, families and health care providers. Seniors can enroll in a Medicare Part D drug plan between November 15, 2005 and May 15, 2006, and during this time Community Resource Coordinators will be available to work one-on-one with seniors to apply for the new drug benefit.

To learn more about DMF's Dakota Communities Access Program or to locate a Community Resource Coordinator in your area to assist seniors with Medicare Part D, visit our webpage at <http://www.dakmed.org/community-access/>

Income to Medical Facilities from Health Program Enrollments

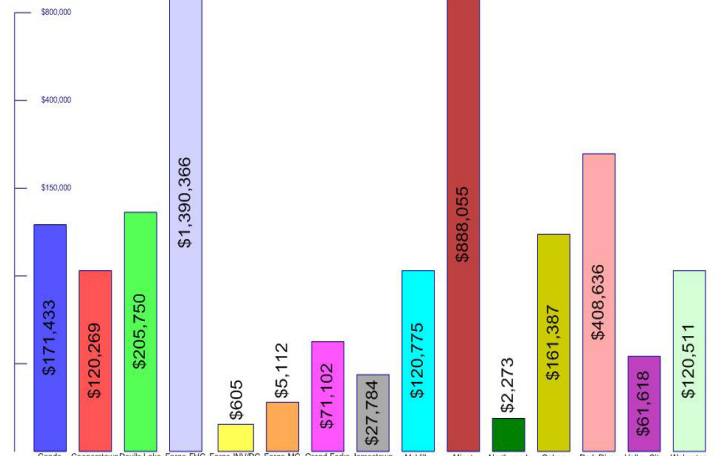
February 2004 - September 2005

Health Programs include: Medicaid, Healthy Steps, Caring Program for Children, Children's Special Health Services, Women's Way, Commercial Insurance



Value of Medications Obtained Through Prescription Assistance

February 2004 - September 2005



Enrollment Highlights

February 2004–September 2005

- 1,849** people enrolled in health coverage programs
- \$5,390,577** reimbursed to medical facilities for health coverage enrollments
- 3,945** people enrolled in prescription assistance
- \$4,234,924** value of medications obtained by patients enrolled in prescription assistance
- 3,468** people enrolled in other assistance programs (i.e., heating assistance, transportation services and other assistance programs.)



Community Resource Coordinator event in Devils Lake, ND, educates parents and children about healthy living and the importance of health care coverage (August 2005).

\$200,000 Grant to Altru Health System Continues the Family Medicine Residency Program in Eastern North Dakota

When the University of North Dakota (UND) School of Medicine discontinued about \$500,000 in annual Family Medicine Residency Training program funding earlier this year, they left the eastern half of North Dakota without a family medicine training program. To avoid this loss, Altru Health System in Grand Forks swiftly stepped in to assume sponsorship of the program and ensure an adequate supply of family medicine physicians in our region. Thus, the Residency was continued without missing this year's resident match, which would have negatively impacted the program's federal funding. To assist Altru in its commitment to the long-term delivery of primary care, Dakota Medical Foundation (DMF) awarded a one-year \$200,000 grant to the Altru Health System's Family Medicine Residency Program for transitional costs.

Transitional requirements include program accreditation, new information systems and cost center set-up, reporting formats, coding, scheduling and registration processes, testing and therapy procedures, equipment, insurance, transcription services, medical records processes, third party payor contracts, logo changes and program marketing.

Currently, 55 UND Family Medicine graduates are providing medical care in DMF's service area. This trend is expected to continue. DMF is proud to partner with Altru Health System to maintain an adequate number of family physicians providing health care to persons in our region.

The new residency program will require significant support from Altru Health System and other external sources – nearly \$1 million will need to be raised annually to cover the program's costs. As part of this grant, DMF included expert fundraising consultant services through Impact Foundation's Institute for Innovation and Effectiveness to develop and implement a fundraising plan for the Residency Program to assure its long-term sustainability.



The staff of DMF wishes everyone a healthy and prosperous holiday season!

Dakota Medical Foundation

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