

NEWS RELEASE
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Jan. 29, 2008

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Health Department receives quality improvement grant

(Lawrence, KS) – The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department will continue its work to national accreditation with a grant that will assist in quality improvement.

The \$11,514 grant was awarded to the Health Department by the Sunflower Foundation, a philanthropic organization that serves to improve the health of Kansans, which it supports through a program of grants, awards and related activities.

The Health Department’s Maternal Child Health staff will use the grant to learn and apply quality improvement methods to the program. MCH provides services such as pregnancy and parenting education, support and counseling and assists low-income pregnant and parenting teens and families with access to resources.

Dr. Ruth Wetta-Hall, University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita assistant professor and vice chair of the department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, will provide hands-on training to the nurses. The strategies they learn will be shared with other department employees.

“To reach accreditation standards, you have to apply quality improvement methods,” said Charlotte Marthaler, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department Director of Policy and Planning. “Our goal is to create a learning organization in which staff will ‘own’ the service they provide and the data that measures their performance.”

Visit <http://www.ldchealth.org/accreditation.htm> for more information on accreditation.