MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER IN THE HEALTH OF ARKANSANS
COMPLIMENTS OF

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families
AARP Arkansas
Arkansas Department of Health
Arkansas Human Development Corporation
Arkansas Insurance Department
Arkansas Minority Health Commission
ARORA
Center for Healing Hearts and Spirits
Coalition for a Tobacco Free Arkansas
Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc
Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health (COPH)-UAMS
Mental Health Council of Arkansas
Minority Initiative Sub-Recipient Grant Office (MISRGO)
UA Partners for Inclusive Communities
UAMS Center for Diversity Affairs - Office of Recruitment for Diversity

The Consortium would like to thank Kayla Brooks (Clinton School of Public Service intern) and Tammi Williamson Bradley (AMHC) for their commitment to quality and excellence in completing this Directory.
Dear Members of the Arkansas General Assembly,

The Arkansas Minority Health Consortium (AMHC) is a partnership of multiple organizations whose mission is to educate Arkansans about healthier living through policy, outreach, research, broad collaborations, and various intervention projects. Through many hours of hard work and dedication, the members of the AMHC have created the 2013-2014 edition of the Arkansas Minority Health Consortium Directory. For legislators, this directory is an invaluable tool that will allow you to become more knowledgeable about the Consortium.

I appreciate the members of the AMHC for working tirelessly to improve the health of our citizens by leading the way toward achieving increased quality of life and by striving to eliminate health disparities. We have a responsibility to do our part to positively affect the lives of those around us. Working together, we can improve the health status of all Arkansans.

Sincerely,

Mike Beebe
Governor
Greetings to the Members of the 89th Arkansas General Assembly!

I take this opportunity to unveil the second edition of the Arkansas Minority Health Consortium Directory. Within this directory, you will discover the remarkable work that grassroots organizations are performing on behalf of underserved communities throughout the state towards our united goal of improving the overall health status of ALL Arkansans.

The Arkansas Minority Health Commission (AMHC) has served as the initiator and facilitator of this continuously growing coalition of health care, health policy, and community based organizations since 2001. Consortium partners work diligently to ensure that all Arkansans have equal access to affordable health care and preventative care. The Consortium meets monthly to address the disproportionate disparities in health and health care facing poor and underrepresented communities throughout the Natural State.

We are thrilled to present you with this directory guide that displays each organization’s mission, vision and programs. It has been my distinct honor to serve as facilitator of this growing public policy advocacy and education collaborative. Please do not hesitate to call me at 501-686-2720 if you would like to learn more about this amazing and dedicated health equity alliance!

With kind regards,

Idonia L. Trotter, JD, MPS
Executive Director
Arkansas Minority Health Commission
Facilitator
Arkansas Minority Health Consortium

Commissioners
Christine Patterson, Chair
Dr. Linda McGhee, Co-Chair
Raul Blasini
Janice Bush
Vanessa Davis
Dr. Roosevelt Gilliam
Wilma Houston
Melissa Lelan
Willie McGhee
Sandra Kennedy Mitchell
Dr. Carmen Paniagua
Willa Black Sanders
Dear Legislators,

I am honored to support this Minority Health Directory published by the Arkansas Minority Health Commission. This publication provides a valuable resource of information regarding the advocates and programs that serve minority communities in Arkansas.

The Minority Health Commission has been diligent with research and educating Arkansas legislators on eliminating health disparities and improving lives so that we might better serve our constituents. These collaborations will enable change in health care access and policy in Arkansas. Their work is essential to the continued success of initiatives that create access to equal health care and health education for every citizen of Arkansas.

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of the Arkansas Minority Health Consortium and their continued efforts to improve the quality of life for all Arkansans.

Sincerely,

Fredrick J. Love
State Representative
District 35
ARKANSAS MINORITY HEALTH CONSORTIUM

Mission
The Arkansas Minority Health Consortium is a collaboration of approximately 30 entities united to increase awareness of minority health and community issues that impact minority health.

Vision
The Arkansas Minority Health Consortium is commissioned to:

- influencing the development of policy;

- leveraging opportunities to maximize our affect on eliminating minority health disparities in Arkansas;

- enhancing the quality of life for underserved communities through effective outreach and broadening collaborations; and

- strengthening all Arkansans through education of the vast resources available to their holistic care: physical, mental and social conditions in the treatment of illness.
Legislative Policy Enactments Supported by the Arkansas Minority Health Consortium
2009-2010

Act 180 – Expansion of ARKids –
- reduces the number of uninsured children

Act 308 – Primary Seat Belt Law Act –
- improves the safety of motorists on highways and roads in Arkansas making the mandatory seat belt law a primary law

Act 352 – Substance Abuse and Prevention Treatment Legislation –
- concerning the offense of knowingly giving, procuring, or furnishing alcohol to a minor

Act 358 – Arkansas Minority Health Commission Delta Survey –
- mandates a survey of health issues in the Delta every five years

Act 393 – Trauma System Legislation –
- establishes a comprehensive trauma system for the state

Act 574 – AMHC Structure –
- modifies, clarifies and expands the AMHC’s structure and duties

Act 709 – Health Care Student Summer Program –
- creates the Health Care Student Summer Enrichment Program for underrepresented students

Act 722 – Legislative Taskforce on Reducing Poverty –
- creates a taskforce to develop ways to reduce poverty in the state

SB 957 - Violence Prevention and Awareness –
- creates a taskforce to study the long-term impact of black-on-black crime
Act 976 – Substance Abuse and Prevention Treatment –
■ establishes criminal liability for social host who knowingly serves visibly intoxicated persons and allows minors to consume alcohol on his/her property

Act 1191 – Sickle Cell Taskforce –
■ creates the Arkansas Legislative Taskforce on Sickle Cell Disease

Act 1374 – Colorectal Cancer Legislation –
■ takes the colon cancer pilot project statewide

HB 1389 – Eye Exams for Children Entering School –
■ provides for comprehensive eye exams for children entering schools for the first time

Act 1489 – Minority Recruitment and Retention –
■ requires state agencies, boards and commissions that license health professionals to procure and report demographic data to AMHC, ADH & ACHI

Act 1490 – Minority Participation on Health Commissions and Boards –
■ ensures that each state health related board and commission reflects the diversity of the state
Legislative Policy Enactments Supported by the 
Arkansas Minority Health Consortium 
2011 - 2012

Act 909 – Creates an Adult Center for Sickle Cell Anemia at UAMS –
- Provides adult sickle cell consumers with:
  - Advanced specialized health care
  - Preventive health care
  - Annual visits for comprehensive diagnosis and treatment
  - Care plan developed to serve as a blue print to care for the patient year round

Act 790 - Health Equity; Defines “Red Counties” –
- Focuses state agencies’ attention on Mortality Disparities in the red counties and create programs to remedy mortality disparities in Arkansas

Act 798 – Health Equity; Encourages & Reports on Collaborative Initiatives Established in Red Counties –
- Encourages collaboration between state agencies/commissions and requires annual report to Senate/House Public Health Welfare & Labor Committees on efforts towards increased services in these areas

Act 1230 – Amends the Membership of the Arkansas HIV/AIDS Minority Taskforce –
- Strengthens capacity of the Arkansas HIV Minority Taskforce

HB 2100 – Establishes an Interim Study on Routine HIV Screening Program –
- Study patient and provider barriers to routine HIV testing

HB 2138 – Establishes an Interim Study to Allow Insurance Commissioner to Continue Local Regulation of Individual Health Insurance Coverage –
- Study processes and effectiveness of the Arkansas Insurance Commissioner continuing to regulate locally individual health insurance coverage in the state
Act 1162 – Establishes Interim Study on Cultural Competency –
- Study how to incorporate cultural competency training and education for state health care employees

Act 1149 – Extends the Operations of the Arkansas Legislative Taskforces on Abused & Neglected Children and on Sickle Cell Disease –
- Extends the operations of the Arkansas Legislative Taskforces on Abused & Neglected Children and on Sickle Cell Disease

Act 811 – Raises the Age of Children Where Smoking is Prohibited in Motor Vehicles –
- Raised the age from 6 to 14 years of age where smoking is prohibited in motor vehicles while children up to 14 are in the vehicle

Act 89 – Authorizes Dental Hygienists to Perform Dental Hygiene Procedures in Public Settings without Supervision of Dentists –
- Allows dental hygienists to perform dental hygiene procedures without having to have a dentist present to supervise

Act 90 – Authorizes Physicians & Nurses to Apply Fluoride Varnish to a Child’s Teeth –
- Allows fluoride varnish to be applied to children’s teeth by medical physicians and nurses in addition to dentists

Act 197 – Provides for Center Water Systems to Maintain a Level of Fluoride to Prevent Tooth Decay –
- Mandates that water systems fitting the criteria in the Act must maintain a level of fluoride to prevent tooth decay for Arkansans being serviced by those water systems

Act 771 – Improves Enrollment of Children In ARKids First A & B –
- Cuts red tape

Act 179 – Expands Immunization Registry to Adults –
- Expands immunization registry to include adults
Affordable Health Care for All Arkansans
Closing the Health Disparities Gap through Medicaid Expansion

The Arkansas Minority Health Consortium and Arkansas Minority Health Commission support state or state/federal partnership in executing the Health Benefits Exchange (HBE) in Arkansas. In addition, the Consortium and Commission support and encourage Medicaid expansion in Arkansas that will ensure health-care coverage for more than 250,000 Arkansans.

Each day, dedicated Consortium partners throughout the state work passionately to address the needs of Arkansas’s most vulnerable and underserved populations, while delivering a broad range of educational activities that engage communities and individuals towards making choices that are conducive to living healthier lifestyles. Yet, without extensive intervention strategies such as offered through the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Medicaid expansion and a locally controlled HBE, the task is daunting. These services will provide hands-on outreach and education in connecting citizens to their new health choices, and assist the state in realizing health equity towards the ultimate goal of improving the overall health status of ALL Arkansans.

Health equity is a concept that is concerned with creating equal opportunities for good or improved health and minimizing unfair health-outcome trends. So, in lay terms, health equity is about making sure everyone has a fair and equal opportunity to reach their full health potential. With the implementation of the ACA, development of a locally driven HBE and the passage of Medicaid expansion up to 138% of poverty, Arkansas will be poised better than ever before to narrow the gap in health disparities. It is also critical for us to explore opportunities to weave health equity throughout the planning and implementation phases of these health-enhancement efforts in Arkansas.
Arkansas has historically been challenged with great health disparities. There are still significant and often dramatic differences in health status by race and Hispanic origin. According to the 2012 *Trends in Health Disparities: A Report for Arkansas*, broad disparities continue to exist between non-minority and minority populations in Arkansas. ²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Mortality - Black</th>
<th>Mortality - Latino</th>
<th>B/W Disparity Ratio</th>
<th>L/W Disparity Ratio</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
<td>295.8</td>
<td>70.1</td>
<td>1.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Injury</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>0.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
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<td>1.55</td>
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<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>0.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>5.76</td>
<td>1.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asthma</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung Cancer</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>0.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prostate Cancer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2.74</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breast Cancer</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorectal Cancer</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>6.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
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<td>7.71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sickle Cell</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Taken from material prepared by Martha Phillips, PhD (for Arkansas Department of Health, 2008) and Creshelle Nash, MD (for Arkansas Minority Health Commission, 2009)

Hispanics in the state of Arkansas seem to have lower mortality rates from some chronic diseases. This may be due to a lack of accurate data and/or smaller numbers.
Not all Americans have equal access to health care. Low-income Americans, racial and ethnic minorities, and other underserved populations often have higher rates of disease, fewer treatment options, and reduced access to care. They are also less likely to have health insurance than the population as a whole. By improving access to quality health care for all Americans, the Affordable Care Act will help reduce these health disparities.3

It is in this vein that the Consortium and Commission supports expanding Medicaid to some 250,000 diverse, hard-working Arkansans and encourage approval of Medicaid expansion by the 89th Arkansas General Assembly. Since 2010, Consortium partners have been active in the planning efforts of the ACA, as well as educating grassroots consumers and legislators on the virtues of full implementation in Arkansas.

Through multiple public forums in all four corners of the state; a statewide ACA media education campaign; informative legislative breakfasts during the session; testimonies at critical committee meetings, holding rallies and press conferences and tracking legislative activities associated with health-care reform, Consortium partners have been strong leaders in educational advocacy on behalf of various underserved and underrepresented communities related to one of the most critical and historical pieces of legislation of our time.


Consortium Member List

African Women’s Health Project International (AWHPI)
American Cancer Society (ACS)
American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA)
Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families (AACF)
AARP Arkansas
Arkansas Cancer Coalition (ACC)
Arkansas Center for Health Improvement (ACHI)
Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)
Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS)
Arkansas Health Care Access Foundation, Inc. (AHCAF)
Arkansas Health Services Permit (AHSP)
Arkansas Human Development Corporation (AHDC)
Arkansas Insurance Department (AID)
Arkansas Legislative Black Caucus (ALBC)
Arkansas Minority Health Commission (AMHC)
Arkansas Prostate Cancer Foundation (APCF)
Arkansas Public Health Association (APHA)
Center for Healing Hearts & Spirits (CHHS)
Center for Rural Health (CFRH/UAMS)
Coalition for a Tobacco Free Arkansas (CTFA)
Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc
Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health (CoPH/UAMS)
Lupus Foundation of America, Arkansas Chapter, Inc.
March of Dimes Arkansas
Mental Health Council of Arkansas (MHCA)
Minority Initiative Sub-Recipient Grant Office (MISRGO/UAPB)
Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities (ADH-OMHHD)
Partners for Inclusive Communities (PIC/UA)
Professional Counseling Associates of Arkansas (PCA-AR)
Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Inc.
Sickle Cell Support Services (SCSS)
The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (ADH-TDPCP)
UAMS Center for Diversity Affairs - Office of Recruitment for Diversity (CDA/UAMS)

To become a Consortium member, please call Tiffany Williams at 501-686-2720.
Lupus Foundation of America, Arkansas Chapter, Inc.

Jamesetta Smith, President/CEO
220 Mockingbird Street
Hot Springs, AR 71913
501-525-9380 or 800-294-8878
lupusarkhs@directlynx.net
www.lupus-arkansas.com

**Mission:** Dedicated to finding the causes of and cure for lupus and providing support services and hope to all people affected by Lupus.

**Vision:** Improve the quality of life for both the lupus patient and significant others.

**Major Problem/Activities**

- Making the name LUPUS a household word;
- Educating the public more about what Lupus is and what it can do;
- Increasing awareness about Lupus with healthcare professionals;
- Taking Lupus seriously; and,
- Getting more African Americans involved for the cause of lupus since it does affect more African Americans than any other race.
Arkansas Interfaith Alliance

Steve Copley, Chair
P.O. Box 2441
Little Rock, AR  72203
501-374-3811
scopley438@gmail.com

The Arkansas Interfaith Alliance is an organization which advocates for concerns of the faith community, especially around poverty, wages, health and racial equality.

We have a 23 member Board of Directors. We were founded in the mid-1990’s and have a rich tradition of standing up at the Capitol for those issues that are important to our organization. Our board members represent the following Christian traditions (United Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Disciples, Christian Methodist Episcopal and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship), as well as, Unitarians, Muslim and Jewish.
American Cancer Society

Emily Pearce
Arkansas Health Initiative Director
901 North University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72207
(501) 603-5206
Emily.Pearce@cancer.org

Founded in 1913 and with national headquarters in Atlanta, the American Cancer Society has 13 regional Divisions & local offices in 3,400 communities, involving millions of volunteers across the United States. The Mid-South Division, Inc. includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and two counties in Indiana.

Mission: The Mid-South Division Strategic Plan is a three-year plan of action for working towards our National Mission and the three National Challenge Goals:

Vision:
- A 50% reduction in age-adjusted cancer mortality rates,
- A 25% reduction in age-adjusted cancer incidence rates; and,
- A measurable improvement in the quality of life (physical, psychological, social and spiritual) from the time of diagnoses and for the balance of life, of all cancer survivors.

Major Programs/Activities

- Increase the Arkansas Tobacco Tax by $1
- Increase Funding for the Breast and Cancer Early Detection Program
- Expand the Colorectal Cancer Screening Pilot State-wide
African Women’s Health Project International

Princess Deun Ogunlana
Executive Director
P.O. Box 55793
Little Rock, AR  72215
(501) 563-8865
awhpi@yahoo.com
www.awhpi.org

Mission: African Women’s Health Project International is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization created in 2003 in Arkansas with its International headquarter in Nigeria, West Africa to improve the health of underserved communities with a mission to promote and nurture individuals with three primary focus areas:

- Breast and Cervical Cancer health awareness,
- HIV/AIDS awareness group; and,
- Youth educational leadership sponsorship within the community and economy development with a special emphasis on healthcare issues.

Vision: To work to broadly communicate information about healthcare and give people information that can help improve their health.

Major Programs/Activities

- Through our Health Policy and Public Education programs, we provide facts, analysis, and explanation on healthcare issues to policymakers, the media and public.
- Collect medical equipments and supplies via donations from hospitals, private practitioners, medical manufacturers, retail stores and other private donors in the USA to be used in these areas.
- Physicians, nurses, and other medical personnel from Arkansas travel abroad also to donate their services to perform treatments at the various medical mission locations in Africa.
Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Inc.

Margaret Kenny  
Clinic Manager  
Little Rock Health Center  
5921 W. 12th Street, Suite C  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
(501) 801-0001  
Margaret.Kenny@ppheartland.org

Private non-profit corporation headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa. An affiliate of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Mission: Ensuring access to quality programs in reproductive health, sexuality and family health through education, advocacy and the provision of direct services.

Vision: To provide advocacy, access, and education  
- Give women and men the information and counseling to make responsible choices;  
- Work to prevent unintended pregnancies and to reduce the need for abortion;  
- Work through coalition and partnerships to raise public awareness and participation in the democratic process; and,  
- Inform people about legal issues, legislation and government policies which affect their ability to receive the services and information to maintain their sexual & reproductive health.

Major Programs/Activities  
- Advocacy to provide funding for preventive family planning services to all in need;  
- Access to affordable, preventive medical care and all methods of contraception;  
- Ensure that all teens and families have access to medically accurate, age-appropriate sexuality education; and,  
- Ensure safe and legal abortion for all.
The American Heart Association/ 
American Stroke Association

Marilyn Clark
Cultural Health Initiatives Director
909 West 2nd Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 379-1189
Marilyn.Clark@heart.org

The American Heart Association is divided physically into the National Center (located in Dallas, Texas) and eight affiliate offices that cover the United States and Puerto Rico. Building healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and strokes. Reduce the risk for coronary heart disease & stroke by 25% by 2010.

**Mission:** To increase awareness, promote research, develop better understanding, support public policies, and improve quality and access to care.

**Vision:** Work to reduce healthcare disparities in heart disease, stroke and associated risk.

**Major Programs/Activities**

- Initiatives aimed at providing quality, culturally appropriate care to specific populations such as women, African-Americans and Hispanic people.
- Power To End Stroke (PTES) – a national program to raise awareness about stroke. Locally with a Gospel Tour – called Fight of Our Life Health Tour, where we will spread the message African Americans are at a high risk for stroke.
- Search Your Heart & Conozca Su Corazon -- faith-based and community-based cardiovascular health education programs targeted to African American and Hispanic people.
- Go Red For Women activities featuring ‘100 Women With Heart’, ‘Go Red Sunday’, and ‘Rolling Out the Red Carpet’ all targeted to African American women and Vestido Rojo targeted to Hispanic women.
Arkansas Human Development Corporation

Clevon Young, JD, MPH
Executive Director
300 South Springs Street, Suite 800
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 374-1103
(501) 374-1413 Fax
cyoung@arhdc.org
www.arkansashumanandevelopment.org

Arkansas Human Development Corporation (AHDC) is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit Community Based Organization (CBO) chartered 1972.

Mission: To improve the lives of individuals, families and communities through collaborative initiatives. To administer the U.S. Department of Labor’s Comprehensive Employment and Training Administration’s (CETA) program for Seasonal and Migrant farm workers in Arkansas. AHDC continues to provide workforce development services to this population under the Job Training Partnership Act (JPTA), and does so now under Section 167 of the workforce Investment Act (WIA). In addition to occupational on-the-job and work experience services, the agency provides childcare, housing, health and medical, nutritional, and transportation services to eligible customers to support training and on the job placement activities.

Vision: Arkansas Human Development Corporation is a dynamic organization delivering critically important services across the state. The organization builds upon the broad experience of its board, staff, volunteers and partners to produce services that will effectively empower and enable needy families and communities to improve their standard of living.
The Arkansas Prostate Cancer Foundation

Kanetra Fitzpatrick
Executive Director
1910 N. Grant Street, Suite 1-A
Little Rock, AR 72207
(501) 379-8027 Phone
(501) 313-4179 Fax
info@arprostatecancer.org
www.arprostatecancer.org

**Mission:** The mission of the Arkansas Prostate Cancer Foundation (APCF), an independent public charity, is to promote awareness, encourage timely detection and support improved treatment of prostate cancer in Arkansas. The APCF believes that access to information and treatment should be available to all men in Arkansas including those facing disparities. Disparities include but are not limited to ethnicity, cultural competence, unequal science, age, gender, disability, financial resources, policy and proximity to care.

**Vision:** The APCF envisions a state without prostate cancer.

**Major Programs/Activities**

- The Campaign against Prostate Cancer is a statewide network of volunteer nurses, physicians and local coordinators, who assist APCF staff in providing no-cost education and screening to Arkansans.
- The APCF Prostate Health Resource Center and website include information to help men and their families make informed decisions.
- The APCF Peer Network includes local support groups and statewide network of Survivor – Mentors. The professionally led Peer Network includes spouses and partners and is a safe and confidential environment for survivors to sort out concerns, find and evaluate resources and learn ways of dealing with challenging situations.
- Survivor– Mentors are men and women who have dealt with the same issues and problems faced by newly diagnosed men and their partners. They are available to talk with one-on-one or if there is not a nearby support group.
Arkansas Public Health Association

Joyce Biddle, President
P.O. Box 250327
Little Rock, AR 72205
Ar_apha@yahoo.com
www.arkpublichealth.org

**Mission:** To promote and protect the public health.

**Vision:** To bring into closer association persons and organizations for the purpose of aiding in the promotion of public health.

**Major Program/Activities**

- To aid in the promulgation and enforcement of state and local legislation in the interest of public health.
- To render service and assistance in time of public emergency and necessity.
- To promote and assist in training and education in the field of Public Health.
- The Health Disparities Section was formed to address disparities in Arkansas communities.
  - Address issues of reducing/eliminating health disparities
  - Educate and inform others on health disparities
  - Bring health disparities to the forefront; not just to the members of APHA but also to communities
Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families

Anna Strong
Health Policy Director
Arkansas Advocates for Children & Families
Union Station, Suite 306
1400 W. Markham
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-371-9678, ext 119
astrong@aradvocates.org
www.aradvocates.org

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, a 501©3 organization, was founded in 1977 by a group of prominent Arkansans who believed that children needed an “independent force to provide information and education to parents and citizens about our state’s policies toward children and families.”

**Mission:** To ensure that all children and their families have the resources and opportunities to lead healthy and productive lives and to realize their full potential.

**Vision:** We serve as a voice for children at the Arkansas State Capitol and in Washington, D.C.; gather and analyze data to support public policy that serves all children and families; and organize coalitions of diverse groups to drive change.

**Major Programs/Activities**

Our work includes:
- Protecting Children
- Improving Children’s Health
- Fighting for Early Education and Out-of-School Opportunities
- Promoting Family Economic Security
The mission of Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families is to ensure that all children and their families have the resources and opportunities to lead healthy and productive lives and to realize their full potential. We:

- Serve as a voice for children at the Arkansas State Capitol and in Washington, D.C.
- Gather and analyze data to support public policy that serves all children and families.
- Organize coalitions of diverse groups to drive change.

You can support our work by signing up for our newsletters and alerts, or by attending one of our many seminars, conferences, Policy Cafés, Advocacy Academies, or fundraisers. Visit our website to see the latest reports and data on the well-being of Arkansas children.

Visit [www.aradvocates.org](http://www.aradvocates.org) and become part of the solution.

Follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com) and [Facebook](https://facebook.com) so you can help:

- Strengthen ARKids First and Medicaid and ensure that all Arkansans have access to affordable health coverage.
- Improve school-based health infrastructure to bring health care to kids.
- Enhance home visiting services for at-risk families.
- Improve educational outcomes to close the achievement gap for low-income and at-risk students.

__Union Station, Suite 306__  
1400 W. Markham  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-371-9678

__614 East Emma St., Suite 107__  
Springdale, AR 72764  
479-927-9800
AARP Arkansas

Maria Reynolds-Diaz
State Director
1701 Centerview Drive, Suite 205
Little Rock, AR 72211
501-217-1623
1-866-554-5379
MDiaz@aarp.org

Website: www.aarp.org/ar
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AARPArkansas

Mission: AARP is dedicated to enhancing quality of life for all as we age. We lead positive social change and deliver value to members through advocacy, service, and information.

Vision: A society in which everyone ages with dignity and purpose, and in which AARP helps people fulfill their goals and dreams.

Major Programs/Activities

• Health
  • Provide advocacy and education on the Affordable Care Act
  • Support Home and Community Based Services
  • Support state health care transformation
  • Conduct You’ve Earned A Say Medicare conversations

• Financial Security
  • Promote use of retirement decision tools
  • Co-sponsor consumer protection statewide forums
  • Conduct You’ve Earned a Say Social Security conversations
  • Provide free tax preparation through AARP Foundation Tax-Aide

• Home and Community
  • Promote walkability/bikability through safe streets and sidewalks
  • Advocate for accessible and affordable housing
  • Raise awareness of Universal Design principles
  • Provide Driver Safety classes
Because giving more of yourself is a commitment, not a requirement.

For some, it’s raising money for charity. For others, it’s ushering at church or helping out in their community. Whatever your passion; when it comes to doing good in your life and the lives of others, AARP has programs and resources that can assist you along the way. From health and wellness to finances, volunteerism to simply enjoying life; AARP is here to support your commitment to making things better.

For more information, visit www.aarp.org/blackcommunity.
Arkansas Department of Health

Paul Halverson, DrPH, FACHE
Director and State Health Officer

Michelle R. Smith, PhD, MPH
Director, Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities
4815 W. Markham Slot 22
Little Rock, AR 72205
Michelle.r.smith@arkansas.gov
501-280-4192

Mission: To provide leadership and promote health equity for minority populations as defined by race/ethnicity, age, disability, education, gender, geographic location, income and sexual orientation.

OMHHD specifically:
• Promotes awareness of health issues related to unequal treatment and social determinants of health in Arkansas with internal and external partners.
• Collaborates with the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), Arkansas Minority Health Commission, Arkansas Center for Health Improvement and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences to improve state health data collection, use, and dissemination strategies.
• Serves as a link to the federal Office of Minority Health and state data resources regarding minority health and health disparities in Arkansas.
• Educates the public about health disparities to increase awareness and capacity for health promotion and disease prevention in Arkansas.
• Ensures representation of diverse populations in state health planning, program development and awareness initiatives, and leadership positions within the ADH.
• Promotes cultural competency, understanding and trust among internal and external partners in Arkansas.
• Supports the development and dissemination of information, strategies, and policies which contribute to the improved health outcomes of minority populations in Arkansas.
The Arkansas Department of Health
Hometown Health Improvement, Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities

Proudly Support

The Arkansas Minority Health Consortium

Hometown Health Improvement (HHI) brings together a wide range of people and organizations to identify local community health problems in an effort to develop and implement ways to solve them. HHI is committed to include all of Arkansas’ diverse cultures and minority populations through sustainable practices of assessment and empowerment through community-led initiatives.

Andrea Ridgway — (501)280-4561 andrea.ridgway@arkansas.gov

The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program focuses on reducing the burden of diabetes through diabetes control activities including diabetes surveillance and prevalence data, development of a statewide plan through an advisory council, public awareness campaigns, and outreach programs for minority and disparate populations. The Program assists communities in developing strategies to prevent and control diabetes, such as Diabetes Self-Management Education/Training Programs.

Bonnie Bradley — (501)661-2093 bonnie.bradley@arkansas.gov

The Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities ensures that public health activities and services are appropriate and sensitive to the needs of minority populations through activities that include Limited English Proficiency, Cultural Awareness and Competency training, and the Back-to-School Campaign.

Dr. Michelle R. Smith — (501)661-2990 michelle.r.smith@arkansas.gov

Arkansas Minority Health Consortium
2011 Directory 26
Arkansas Minority Health Commission

Idonia L. Trotter, JD, MPS
Executive Director
523 Louisiana, Suite 425
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 686-2720
Idonia.trotter@arkansas.gov
www.arminorityhealth.com

Mission: To ensure all minority Arkansans have access to health care that is equal to the care provided to other citizens of the state and to seek ways to provide education, address issues and prevent diseases and conditions that are prevalent among minority populations.

FY 2014-2018 Goals

Goal #1: Increase the number of minority Arkansans that obtain recommended screening for diseases that disproportionately impact minorities.

Goal #2: Increase the number of minority Arkansans who receive education regarding diseases that disproportionately impact minorities.

Goal #3: Establish a system of Supported Navigation to help minority citizens identify and gain access to appropriate health and health care resources in their communities.

Goal #4: Establish a collaborative network of stakeholders to address workforce diversity and education of health care professionals regarding diseases that disproportionately affect minorities.

Goal #5: Establish a network of coordination and collaboration with other agencies and organizations addressing the health of minority populations.

Goal #6: Establish a constituency of individuals, community-based organizations, and communities committed to the mission and goals of AMHC.

Goal #7: Advocate for policy that will promote the health of minority Arkansans.
your HEALTH. OUR PRIORITY.

The MISSION of the Arkansas Minority Health Commission is to ensure all minority Arkansans access to healthcare that is equal to the care provided to other citizens of the state.

To learn how you may assist the effort, log on to amminorityhealth.com.
Coalition for a Tobacco Free Arkansas

Carla Sparks, Chairman of the Board of Directors
1100 N. University Avenue
Suite 257
Little Rock, AR  72207

Katherine Donald, Executive Director
501.687-0345 (office)
kdonald@arfreshair.com
www.arfreshair.com

**Mission:** To improve the health of Arkansans by reducing the health burden caused by tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure.

**Vision:** Health Parity & Justice for All

**Major Program/Activities**

- Black males, tobacco use and lung cancer workshops, with a goal to increase awareness of the dangers of smoking and decrease the number of black males dying disproportionately from lung cancer in Arkansas.
- Smoke-free Homes & Cars campaign targeted to the African-American communities in Pulaski, Jefferson, Chicot & Desha Counties. The goal is to protect children of color from exposure to secondhand smoke in their common use environments, i.e. the home and car.
SMOKE-FREE CARS

It's the Law!
Act 811 of 2011

Healthy Kids!

(501) 687-0345 | Fax: (501) 687-0347 | Email: coalition@arfreshair.com
Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc.

Sip B. Mouden, Chief Executive Officer
420 W. 4th Street
Suite A
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501-374-8225
www.chc-ar.org

Mission: To develop and protect the resources that ensure quality healthcare for all.

Vision: Where every Arkansan has equal access to affordable, quality healthcare.

Major Programs & Activities

• Community Health Centers of Arkansas, Inc. (CHCA) and its member Community Health Centers (CHCs) serve a large proportion of minorities and populations who suffer with many disparities. CHCs serve underserved populations who lack access to quality affordable health care, are low income, have a high proportion of chronic conditions, diseases, and related health disparities.

• CHCs, as Patient Centered Medical Homes, provide culturally sensitive, literacy and linguistically appropriate care which is quality driven and are actively engaged in Quality Improvement/Health Disparities Collaboratives, focusing on chronic diseases and conditions, such as Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, and Depression, CHCs also participate in other collaborative efforts, including the Safety and Pharmacy Collaborative and Access/Redesign Collaborative.

• CHCs strive to reduce and eliminate health disparities among populations which they serve through the provision of quality, comprehensive, continuous, primary and preventive care which is affordable.
Arkansas Community Health Centers
Your Patient-Centered Medical Home

Community Health Centers:

- Provide local access to comprehensive, quality, and affordable primary and preventive healthcare in 83 health center locations for 156,000+ Arkansans
- Prevent, manage, and control “chronic diseases” to improve health status and reduce health disparities
- Generate cost savings through an efficient and effective healthcare delivery system

Find Us Online!
www.chc-ar.org

www.facebook.com/CommunityHealthCentersofAR
www.twitter.com/chc_ar
Minority Initiative Sub-Recipient Grant Office (MISRGO)

Marian S. Evans-Lee, DrPH, CHES
Project Coordinator
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
1200 North University Drive, Mail Slot 4902
Pine Bluff, AR 71601
(870) 575-8923
evansm@uapb.edu

Vision: To reduce tobacco use in minority communities.

Mission: Change society’s norms regarding tobacco consumption and to continue educating Arkansans about the dangers of tobacco products as the single most preventable cause of death and disease.

Our Programs
• From 2010-2012, facilitated through sub-grantee efforts, smoke-free parks in 17 minority communities.
• Facilitated, through sub-grantee efforts, passage of Act 811 of 2011.
• The annual Clearing the Air in Communities of Color Conference has educated over 4,000 individuals.
• Through the Request for Proposals process, 75+ organizations have received funding for tobacco control, prevention and education - totaling over $10 million.
• Prompted the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff to become the first university to implement a tobacco free campus policy.

Major Programs/Activities
• Request for Proposals
• Mini Grant Program Support
• Capacity Building Workshops
• Community Resource
• Clearing the Air in Communities of Color Conference
• Media Campaign
• Program Oversight
"Smoking is the leading preventable cause of disability, disease and death in the United States."

870.575.8923
misrgo.org
Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health (COPH) – University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS)

Dr. Jim Raczyński, PhD, FAHA
Professor and Founding Dean
4301 West Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199
501 526-6600
www.publichealth.uams.edu

COPH Consortium Representative: Willa Black Sanders, MPA
Office: (501) 526-6601       Cell: (501) 658-9335

Mission: To improve the health and promote the well-being of individuals, families and communities in Arkansas through education, research and service.

Vision: Optimal Health for All

Major Programs/Activities
- Arkansas Center for Health Disparities Research (ARCHD): Funded by National Institute of Health (NIH): The overall goal is to develop research to improve access to quality prevention and health care programs for racial and ethnic minorities with a goal of eliminating health disparities.
- 4+1 Program: Funded through the education and training core of ARCHD, this combined degree program is a partnership with the three historically Black colleges in Arkansas (University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Philander Smith College, and Arkansas Baptist College) allows eligible students, normally at the end of their sophomore year, to jointly enroll in their College and the COPH.
- AR Prevention Research Center (ARPRC) - Develops community-based prevention research and educational programs that reduce risks for chronic disease among Arkansas’ racial and ethnic minorities with a goal of eliminating chronic disease health disparities. (Funded by Center for Disease Control & Prevention)
- Arkansas Prevention Research Center (ARPRC): Funded by Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: The overall goal is to develop community-based prevention research and educational programs (for academicians, practitioners, and community partners/members) that reduce risk for chronic diseases among Arkansas’ racial and ethnic minorities with a goal of eliminating health disparities.
- Center for the Study of Obesity
- Center for the Study of Tobacco Use
Optimal Health For All

MASTEr of PUBLIC HEALTH

- Biostatistics
- Environmental and Occupational Health
- Epidemiology
- Health Behavior and Health Education
- Health Policy and Management

www.uams.edu/coph
Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) - South Central
University of Arkansas Medical Sciences (UAMS)

Eddie Maples, BSN, RRT, AHEC Director
LaSonya Shelby, BBA, Health Professions Recruiter
Angela Turner, Outreach Director
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em Maples@ahcsc.uams.edu
uams.edu/ahcpinebluff

The Arkansas Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Program was founded in 1973, through combined efforts of the Governor, the State Legislature, and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). AHEC Pine Bluff Counties are: Arkansas, Drew, Saline, Garland, Grant, Jefferson, Lonoke, Lincoln, Prairie, Hot Spring, and Cleveland.

Mission: To improve the supply and distribution of health care professionals in Arkansas, with an emphasis on primary care, through community/academic educational partnerships, to increase quality health care for all Arkansans.

Vision: To serve as the primary educational outreach effort of UAMS and the principal means of decentralizing medical and other health professions education throughout the state.

Major Programs/Activities
- Health Professions Recruitment Program - UAMS AHEC Pine Bluff offers FREE support to all students interested in health professions by providing practice MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) and PCAT (Pharmacy College Admissions Test) exams, mock interviews, UAMS tours, advising conferences, health career presentations, and Medical Applications of Science for Health (MASH) summer camp. To learn more, visit Arkansashealthcareers.com or email ls Shelby@ahcpcp.uams.edu.
- Outreach Program - To schedule health screenings, diabetes education, youth health education, adult education, and/or exercise demonstrations, email at Turner@ahcpcp.uams.edu.
Partners for Inclusive Communities/
University of Arkansas

David Deere, Director
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 300
North Little Rock, AR 72114
501-682-9900
501-682-9902 (TTY)
800-342-2923
deere@uark.edu
http://UofAPartners.uark.edu

Mission: To support individuals with disabilities and families of children with disabilities to fully and meaningfully participate in community life, effect systems change and prevent disabilities.

Vision: To include persons with disabilities in all aspects of community life.

Major Program/Activities
• To provide training to health professionals on cultural competence
• To assist early childhood professionals to better understand diversity, appreciate cultural differences and similarities, learn strategies to support English Language Learners, and promote inclusion by providing training and technical assistance.
• To provide training about sickle cell disease and information and referral to services for persons with sickle cell disease.
UAMS Center for Diversity Affairs

Billy R. Thomas, M.D., MPH
Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences | Center for Diversity Affairs
4301 W. Markham, #625
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199
PHONE: (501) 686-7299 | (800) 432-8091 (outside Pulaski County)
FAX: (501) 686-7439
www.uams.edu/cda
cda@uams.edu

CDA Consortium Representative:
Vivian Flowers, MPS
Director of Recruitment for Diversity
(501) 526-7343
VFlowers@uams.edu

Mission: To advance diversity, inclusiveness, equity, and cultural competency in all aspects of the UAMS mission.

Vision: The CDA envisions UAMS as an academic health center where diversity, inclusion, and cultural competency are realized in all aspects of its mission, contributing to a society in which all individuals enjoy equity in health, wellbeing, and opportunity.

Functions: The CDA provides leadership, programs, and resources, and engages in partnerships and collaborations.

The UAMS Center for Diversity Affairs (CDA) actively recruits underrepresented minority students throughout the academic pipeline in Arkansas and surrounding states. The CDA also works through the UAMS Minority Faculty Development Caucus (MFDC) to substantially increase and retain minority faculty at UAMS through networking, mentoring, research opportunities, and skills-building with a long-term goal of directly improving health care at both the institutional and state level. CDA staff participates in organized recruitment fairs, health fairs and conferences, as well as coordinated events and targeted partnerships with academic and non-profit organizations throughout and outside of Arkansas. Additionally, the CDA provides and participates in on-campus leadership related to diversity and inclusion at UAMS.
“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.
Arkansas Health Care Access Foundation, Inc.

Kalena Jones, MHA
Executive Director
P.O. Box 56248
Little Rock, AR 72215
(501) 221-3033
(800) 950-8233 Toll Free
www.ahcaf.org
kjones@ahcaf.org

The Arkansas Health Care Access Foundation, Inc. (AHCAF), founded in 1989 by the Arkansas Medical Society, is a state-wide volunteer-based nonprofit. The foundation is committed to provide free or affordable medical care, dental services, and prescriptions to the elderly, permanently disabled, and uninsured Arkansans.

Mission: To provide donated and low cost medical care, dental treatment, and prescription services to Arkansas’ low income uninsured citizens, through a statewide network of volunteer medical and dental professionals.

Vision: To improve the state of health care for Arkansas through the delivery of targeted prevention education, free or low-cost general office visits, and prescription and dental assistance programs so all Arkansans have equal access to affordable health care.

Our work includes

- Educating Arkansans about various health conditions and resources
- Empowering Arkansans through prevention education
- Providing leadership in health care policy for the program
- The recruitment and retention of health care professionals as volunteers
- Providing health, dental and prescription services to the elderly, uninsured, and poor
Sickle Cell Support Services

Germaine Johnson
President
P.O. Box 4186
Little Rock, AR 72214
(501) 650-0764
Arsicklecell@yahoo.com

The sickle cell consortium is composed of different but equal entities (Sickle Cell Support Services and Arkansas Children’s Hospital-Hematology/Oncology).

Mission: To “Improve Health Outcomes and Reduce Disparities” by serving as a vehicle and resource center for the psychosocial, social service and health care needs of children, adolescents, adults and families affected by sickle cell disease.

Vision: Our primary focus is on enhancing the well being of sickle cell patients and their families in the State of Arkansas. Our primary area of focus is establishing transitional program; educational awareness; supported and adult health services.

Major Programs/Activities
While there are many people with sickle cell disease in the state, there are few services available to them. There are no identified providers who specialize in treating adults with sickle cell. Those patients are left to find a willing family practice physician to provide their care. Identified below are key recommendations to address health outcomes and disparities in targeted populations, as follows:

- Mandated screening with education follow-up;
- Vaccines for patients with sickle cell disease;
- Provide more useful and person-specific tools for disease intervention;
- Develop patient protocols/plan;
- Accessing acute painful episodes; and,
- Target medicines and dosages more precisely and safely to each individual.
Women’s Council on African American Affairs, Inc.

Women’s Council on African American Affairs, Inc.
Susie P. Marks, President of the Board
2416 South Chester Street
Little Rock, AR 72206

Joyce M. Raynor, Executive Director
Work Phone- 501-372-3800 Work Mobile 501-352-4325
hhscenter@sbcglobal.net
www.hhscenter.org

Mission: To promote and nurture individuals in areas of education, leadership development, community and economic development with a special emphasis on healthcare issues, race relations, public safety and business development.

Vision: All persons will be connected to and provided services that will contribute to their overall betterment.

Major Programs/Activities
• Victim Services including Rape Crisis Program with Rape Crisis Hot Line: 1.855.6.HELP4U (1.855.643.5748), Sexual Assault Prevention and Domestic Awareness programs targeting despaired communities in Jefferson, Saline, Grant and Pulaski Counties;
• Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (1-800-QUIT NOW) targeting despaired communities in Pulaski, Saline, Gran, Faulkner, Lonoke, and Prairie Counties;
• Emergency Domestic Violence Awareness Assistance;
• Black on Black Crime Prevention program spanning the state of Arkansas reducing the epidemic of Black on Black Crime via education and mentoring;
• Diabetes Awareness and Education, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Adult and Childhood Obesity Programs providing awareness and improving health of despaired communities in Pulaski County; and,
• Women Empowerment Program and Teen Conference on Reducing Risky Behaviors.
Arkansas Protection from Secondhand Smoke For Children Act (ACT 811 of 2011) FACT CARD

There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke; even brief exposure can be harmful to children.

- Act 811 prohibits smoking in all vehicles when a child under 14 years of age is present.

- Smoking in a vehicle with children under 14 is a primary offense; a vehicle can be pulled over, and the driver may receive a ticket for violating the law.

- Any first offenders may have their fine removed by proving current enrollment into a program to quit using tobacco (tobacco cessation program).

- To quit tobacco call 1-800-GUIT-NOW, or 1-800-784-8669, for a free program including medication, while supplies last.

For more information, visit stampoutsmoking.com or healthy.arkansas.gov.
Arkansas Insurance Department

Jay Bradford
Commissioner

**Mission:** The purpose of the State Insurance Department is to serve and protect the public interest by the equitable enforcement of the state’s laws and regulations affecting the insurance industry. The primary mission of the State Insurance Department shall be consumer protection through insurer solvency and market conduct regulation, and fraud prosecution and deterrence.

**THE HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE - Coming January 1, 2014**

The Exchange is a marketplace where individuals and employers with 50 or fewer employees (100 or fewer employees beginning in 2016) will be able to shop for, compare and enroll in affordable health insurance coverage. Enrollment will begin October 1, 2013.

Plans available on the Health Insurance Exchange will be pre-qualified by the Arkansas Insurance Department to ensure that they contain essential health benefits such as hospitalization, outpatient services, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, wellness care, prescription drugs, laboratory services, pediatric services, including pediatric oral and vision care.

You may obtain healthcare coverage through the exchange on-line, by phone, by mail, or in-person.

Depending upon your income, you may qualify for financial assistance (premium tax credits) to help defray the cost of your health insurance premium.

The Arkansas Insurance Department will continue to maintain regulatory control over the insurance plans that will be available for purchase through the Exchange.

Arkansas Insurance Department will select, train, and regulate the people who will explain to Arkansans their health insurance options and help them enroll using the Exchange.

Current projections are that 572,000 uninsured consumers in the state will be able to obtain coverage through the Federally-facilitated State Partnership Exchange.

By creating a larger pool of insured individuals, some healthy and some not, it is expected that Arkansans will have a greater choice in affordable health insurance products.

For the most current information on Exchange activities, visit our website at: [http://hbe.arkansas.gov/](http://hbe.arkansas.gov/)

Building a healthier future for all Arkansans
Good News
For Small Businesses

If you have 50 or fewer employees and choose to offer health insurance in 2014, the new Federal Health Benefits Exchange can help you:

- Compare Insurance Plans at Competitive Prices
- Shop and Enroll in Plan(s) of Your Choice
- Qualify for a Tax Credit

For more information, contact your agent or:

501-683-7077
www.hbe.arkansas.gov

Help Is On The Way
(Individual/Family)

Look for enrollment opportunities beginning October 2013. Contact the Arkansas Insurance Department Health Benefits Exchange Partnership Division

501-683-7079
Mental Health Council of Arkansas

Pam Christie
Executive Director
501 South Woodlane, Suite 104
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501)372-7062
pchristie@mhca.org

The Mental Health Council of Arkansas is a non-profit organization governed by a board of directors representing each of the 14 participating community mental health centers and their affiliates.

Mission: The Mental Health Council of Arkansas exists for the purpose of insuring that appropriate community-based mental and behavioral healthcare is available throughout the State of Arkansas in a manner which is accessible, balanced, affordable, and quality driven.

Vision:

• A holistic approach to mental and behavioral healthcare which supports and promotes the optimal social, health and economic well-being for all of the people in the State of Arkansas.

• “Quality-driven” mental and behavioral healthcare that recognizes the dignity, rights and strengths of the individuals, families and groups served; coordinates services in the best interest of the consumer; and provides assistance from competent, effective and caring professionals.

• A balanced mental and behavioral healthcare system, developed and maintained, consistent with the varied demographic, cultural and mental health needs of each region and community within the State of Arkansas.

• Comprehensiveness including a range of preventive, treatment and rehabilitative mental and behavioral healthcare modalities within a single unified community-based service system.

• Community governance of each regional mental and behavioral healthcare system, in partnership with State authorities, as the appropriate means to establish and maintain a stable state-wide network of geographically accessible mental and behavioral healthcare.

Major Programs/Activities

• Collaborate with Arkansas’ healthcare community to address access and sustainability for persons needing substance abuse and mental health treatment

• Provide resources for Consumer Council organizations throughout Arkansas to support consumer needs

• Facilitate training for behavioral health providers throughout Arkansas including cultural competency and diversity training

• Develop policy to insure the sustainability of the public mental health system in Arkansas, serving our State’s most vulnerable population
The Mental Health Council of Arkansas is focused on providing a quality and evidence-based community mental and behavioral healthcare system of care for all Arkansans.

Treatment is Effective
Prevention can Work
Recovery is Possible

Mental Health Council of Arkansas
Phone: (501)372-7062 www.mhca.org
It takes less than a minute
to give someone in need a lifetime.

Join Arkansas's new online organ and tissue donor registry, and you can save a life with the click of a button.

Currently, there are more than 114,000 people like Deandre waiting for organ transplants.

And those in need could spend their lifetime waiting for you to do something that takes less than a minute.

So, give up a little of your time, and one day it may give someone else so much more of theirs.

Log on and register today!