

Community Health Advocate
Report to the Steering Committee
November 10th, 1998

Submitted by Brenda Kent, CHA Coordinator/Trainer

☛ Welcome ROBERTA SCIARRETTA as the CHA Outreach Trainer! She started on Nov 2nd and will be with us until February 1st. She will be helping in the production of the CHA manual, co-facilitating the CHA training sessions, and providing 'hands-on' support to the CHAs in their communities once they are up-and-running! I am excited to be working with Roberta who brings a great deal of skills and tons of enthusiasm to the Collective!

CHA Manual Status

Thanks to the group who has offered to proof-read the draft of the CHA manual. Things are getting a little later than anticipated, but it will be ready for proofing this week. We will talk about when we can get together. I have finally realized that we do not need to answer all of the questions in the first run....there are always going to be additions and amendments after the pilot year - the trick is to LEARN from these trials and apply them in the future.

CHA Training

The CHA training will occur over three days :

Wednesday, November 18th 5:00 - 8:30pm

Saturday, November 21st, 10:00 - 4:00

Saturday, November 28th 10:00 - 4:00

The InfoCentre is open on these days, but we will be in the back room, so I do not think this will be a problem.

There are 12 women that we will be training for the CHA. We have a lot of really terrific and passionate women who are from a diverse cross-section of communities! VERY EXCITING! If anyone wants to know more, just ask.

Food Sponsor

We need a food sponsor. I do not want to look for sponsors just for CHA, but for the whole collective. Does anyone have ideas about who to hit up? Does anyone want to help me?



Vancouver/Richmond Health Board

We RECENTLY received the VRHB review of our project status that was submitted in JULY. It was not favourable. They had concerns about timelines. But this report was submitted three weeks after I started my job here, and the review took place in mid-October. A LOT went on between July and now. So we are having a meeting with them on November 5th to clear up any concerns and look to the future. I will report on that at the SC Meeting.

Future of Project

I would like to take a few minutes to discuss the future of the CHA project and get some ideas about where we want to go with it after this pilot year. I think we may have something to discuss after the meeting on Nov 5th with the VRHB.

WHIN REPORT

The WHIN committee met with Celeste Wincapaw from the Centre of Excellence about our project (HER) and what the problems were with the HER proposal. We identified some problems and ways around them.

She wanted to be clear that the money is tagged for us!! We have the ability to receive the \$15,000 that we have been hoping for! We may need to change our focus from what we initially wanted to do with the money. We can use that money as a means to an end.

FOR DISCUSSION : Suggestions about how we can apply for the funding from COE.

1. We can apply for approx \$5000 to hire a researcher to do research around the CHA project in the new year. She would gather information from the CHAs and report on what is going on in the various communities in the areas of access to safe health care.
2. We can apply for approx \$5000 to hire a grant-writer to go for much larger funding for HER and other projects. She estimates that grant writers will get paid \$1000 per grant. From this, we may get a hold of bigger money to do bigger and better things.

The details of how this would work would need to be worked out with the COE, but we need a sub-committee to look into this. DO WE HAVE THE ENERGY TO DO THIS? I feel that we would be silly to not pursue this, but I also think we need to ensure that we have the person-power to deal with it.

