

Highlights of Accomplishments – 2001

Acute/Primary Care

- 390 people participated in Imagine Action, our **community-wide physical activity** campaign; co-sponsored by the TC Health Department.

Awarded about 40 door prizes including a \$500 travel certificate. Scheduled weekly walks and shared tips via email.

- Worked with the Tobacco Control Coalition to distribute **\$23,500 in mini-grants** to 19 local groups for tobacco cessation and prevention; subsidized Cessation Training for 75 counselors, youth workers, pharmacists and others.

With four-county coalition, completed a manual for physician offices about tobacco control.

- Gathered data about access to health care and patterns of **use of prescription drugs**.
- Supported the proposed dental clinic to serve all, including Medicaid, Child Health Plus and the uninsured. Surveyed dentists to identify specific obstacles to their participation in Medicaid.
- Studied **Rural Outreach** with an emphasis on using existing outreach efforts to strengthen health care outreach.

*A big thanks to **Stone Travel** for the \$500 travel certificate and to other businesses for incentive prizes for Imagine Action.*

Long Term Care

- Helped gather more than 680 responses to a community survey on **End-of-Life Care**. Ithaca College interns helped tabulate and analyze the data. Presented results to community groups.
- Honored Home Health Aides in a second County-wide Gala Recognition event. Hosted a talk about “Enhancing Communication with Patients and Family” and an interactive theatre troupe.

*Special thanks to **Cayuga Medical Center** and **Ithaca College Gerontology Institute** for their support of the Home Health Aide Recognition luncheon.*

- Testified at legislative forum on Staffing Needs for Long Term Care. Gathering data from local agencies about specific needs.
- Secured \$5,700 to supplement pay for aides through COFA’s EISEP, Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program; expected to continue in 2002.
- Completed needs assessment about **Medical Adult Day Care**. Identified a considerable need for this program in Tompkins County.
- A founding member of the fifteen-county Area Health Education Center which works to increase the supply of health care workers.

Advisory Board

- Implemented our survey to track the effects of health care reform in Tompkins County; have 4 full years of data to consider trends.
- Hosted Nick Unger, speaking about “**Health Care Access for All: American Dream or Real Possibility?**”
- Had representatives to Cayuga Medical Center at Ithaca, four-county Healthy Living Partnership, DSS Medicaid Managed Care Committee, and the TC Planning Advisory Board.
- Updated the HPC section of the Human Services Coalition’s **Strategic Plan**. Helped plan a major revision of the HSC web site and data base structure.
- Opposed proposed reductions in Medicaid reimbursement for skilled nursing facilities (nursing homes) and supported expansion of income guidelines for Family Health Plus.
- Participated in TC Planning Dept.’s Vital Communities public meetings to represent health issues.
- Supported the **Waterfront Inlet Trail** organized by the Chamber of Commerce.
- Thanks to the Tompkins County Board of Representatives for their ongoing support and maintaining the program at full staffing.