Health Care Access of Northern Residents
Manitoba/Saskatchewan Workshop
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Presented By:
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Structure of Health Services

- Regional Health Authorities Act
- Policy Governance
- Core Services
Health Services

Public Health on the Bayline

- Public health nurse 1-2 days per month
- Community Health Workers
- On call workers
Health Services

Thicket Portage, Pikwitonei and Ilford:

- Public Health Nurse travels out twice a month to provide Public Health Services, Home Care Assessments, community follow-up etc.
- Families First Program travels out twice a month.
- A Physician and Clinical Assistant travel out once a month to provide services.
- Footcare travels monthly.
Health Services

- Wabowden:
  - A Nurse lives in community of Wabowden and provides Public Health Services, Home Care Assessments, community follow-up
  - Families First weekly Home Visits
  - Physician, clinical assistant monthly
  - Foot Care – nurse travels monthly
Health Services

Other Travel Includes:

- Retinal Screening, Diabetes Program, Dietician, Dental Program, Infectious Diseases, Home Care Program, Mental Health

Partners that Travel with us Includes:

- Child and Family Services as they work on cases
- Addictions Foundation of MB
- Any other community agencies
Health Services

Community Celebrations:

- National Child Day in November
- Family Literacy Day in January
- Safe Kids in June
Health Services

- Immunization
  - Almost 100% in every community

- Influenza/Pneumococcal
  - 1-2 trips to each community in flu season
    (November – March)
  - Homebound clients are seen in the home
Health Services

- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
  - Sexual health counseling – grade 7,8
  - Disclosure/counseling
  - Distribution of condoms
Health Services

- TB Coordination
  - Follow up for clients
  - Community presentations upon request
  - Outreach
Health Services

- Public Health in the Schools
  - Detailed calendar
  - Education:
    - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
    - Immunization Awareness
    - Flu awareness
    - Tobacco +++
    - Lice (September, January, April)
    - Mental wellness awareness
    - Safety – Safe Kids week - June
    - Diabetes (November)
    - World Aids Day (HIV/AIDS)
Health Services

- **Community Events**
  - National Child Day - November
  - Family Literacy Day – January
  - Safe Kids – June

*** we need to plan together on literacy – our rates are not improving ***
Health Services

- Prenatal and Postnatal Care
  - Healthy Baby
    - Prenatal up to one year
    - Nutrition education/milk vouchers
    - Not running due to vacancies at present
    - Nurses/Community Health workers are excellent at referring to the program
Health Services

- Families First
  - 0-5 years
  - Every 2 weeks
  - Specific worker for each family – travels from Thompson
Health Services

- Books for Babies – package given to every new mom
- Oral Health
  - Our dental health coordinator has been to every community
  - Train the trainer – health centre staff
Health Services

- Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative
  - Physical activity
  - Nutrition
  - Tobacco reduction
  - Mental wellness
Health Services

Diabetes

– RN/Dietitian – travel every 2 months to communities – clients visited every 2 months

- Presentations as requested
- Diabetic foot care nurses traveling regularly
- Retinal screening
- Risk Factors and Complications Assessments – train the trainer program is starting in the fall
Health Services

Mental Health services present a great challenge.

Our objective is to partner with the community to focus on promotion and prevention and to reduce the stigma for seeking help.
Lessons Learned

- Clear and open communication is essential
- Regular meetings are essential
- Solutions must be planned together
- Impact monitored and evaluated together
- Trust is the basis for understanding and moving forward
Lessons Learned

- It is important to move past the problem identification stage
- We must seek input from the community on a regular basis
- The community has a major contribution to the health of its members – chronic disease prevention initiatives etc.
Lessons Learned

Upward and Onward
Questions/Comments?