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America on the Move Celebrated at CHFS

Hundreds of Frankfort staffers participated in a celebration marking the end of America on the Move at CHFS. The AOM event coincided with a Health and Wellness Fair in the CHR lobby during Women's Health Week.

See a slideshow of the event [here](#).

Employee Profile: Michael Henson

Michael Henson prefers his behind-the-scenes work as a network engineer at CHFS rather than being in the spotlight. But Henson's activities in the community take him out of the shadows and into leadership roles where he has the fortune to impact the lives of many. Henson has been with the state 26 years as of last month.



How does your job allow you to impact the lives of your fellow Kentuckians? What's the best part of your job?

Most all of state work now depends on computers. I help maintain the network in our Cabinet. While the network works correctly, no one knows I have any impact. That is the way I like it.

One of my main jobs is working with the network backups. The best part of my job is hearing the relief and joy of someone after I am able to restore their lost files.

What activities do you participate in outside of work? How do these activities benefit your life?

I have a wonderful wife, Jana, of 21 years and two sons Daniel, 17, and David, 13. We love to travel together and listen to books on tape. We are currently listening to "The Firm" by John Grisham.

I work with the Boy Scouts in Troop 269, which is sponsored by the First Church of the Nazarene and the American Legion. I am presently coordinating a trip whitewater rafting and backpacking on the Appalachian Trail.

I attend Saint Paul United Methodist Church where I co-teach Sunday School for children age 3 through kindergarten. I also sing in the best church choir in Frankfort.

To keep myself together, I attend Weight Watchers and run. Before I started Weight Watchers and really running hard, I weighed 70 pounds more than I do now. I also love riding my bicycle and when I can, I ride to work.

What was your first job ever? Did you like it?

I worked as a counselor at the YMCA Summer Day Camp in Somerset. I really enjoyed seeing the joy on the faces of children as they learned to swim.

What Web site do you think everyone should visit?

I think everyone should visit Google. It is like Alice's Restaurant. You can get anything you want there. Or check out one of the Web sites I set up and maintain for my church and scout troop.

www.dcr.net/~stpaul
www.dcr.net/~troop269

If you could create a soundtrack of your life, what five songs would be in it?

"Forever Young" by Bob Dylan
"Our House" by Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young

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“As Time Goes By” from Casablanca
“Souvenirs” by John Prine
“Simple Twist of Fate” by Bob Dylan

Hundreds Attend Elder Abuse Awareness Rally

By Anya Armes Weber

About 200 people attended an elder abuse awareness rally at the Capitol on Tuesday, May 16, as part of Elder Abuse Awareness Month.

The Cabinet co-sponsored the event with the

Kentucky AARP chapter, the Kentucky Association of Gerontology and the Office of the Attorney General as part of Elder Abuse Prevention Month

Children and Family Services Undersecretary Eugene Foster, Ed.D., said that last year, the Cabinet received more than 9,200 reports for elder maltreatment, and that 30 percent of these referrals were substantiated.

“Much of this maltreatment occurs at the hands of family members and those charged with the care of these individuals,” he said. “Given this reality, it would be easy to become discouraged if it weren’t for the significant progress we are



Adult protective services worker Tanda Dannelly is congratulated by state Sen. Ed Worley, D-Richmond, on her National Adult Protective Services Association “Spirit of the NAPSA” award.

making in the Commonwealth in protecting our older adults.”

Cabinet adult protective services worker Tanda Dannelly was recognized for receiving the 2005 National Adult Protective Services Association’s first “Spirit of the NAPSA” award. Dannelly is an investigator and provides ongoing protective services to adults in Madison County. She educates local law enforcement, bank personnel and attorneys on ways to recognize and prevent elder exploitation.

The Cabinet’s Adult Protective Services office’s first \$500 Public Awareness Initiative Award was presented to The Northern Kentucky Elder Maltreatment Alliance for making the biggest impact on public awareness of elder abuse.

Leaders of the state’s 39 Local Coordinating Councils on Elder Abuse (LCCEAs) were honored for their work responding to abuse at the community and regional levels, and the Cabinet’s adult nurse consultants were recognized for their dedication to the LCCEAs and regional staff.

Foster said all but nine of Kentucky’s 120 counties belong to a coordinating council.

“I want us to make it a goal to have every county actively involved in a coordinating council by the end of this year,” he said.

Secretary’s Forums Wrap Up This Week

By Anya Armes Weber

The final two sessions of the spring Secretary’s Forums for central office staff are this week in the



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Health Services Auditorium.

The remaining sessions are targeted according to office. Dates and times are:

- 11 a.m.-noon, Thursday, May 25 – Human Services and Secretary’s Office
- 11 a.m.-noon, Friday, May 26 – Children and Family Services

Secretary Mark D. Birdwhistell will discuss his goals for the Cabinet and our customers and staff will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Staff from the Health and Administrative and Fiscal Affairs verticals attended sessions earlier this month.

Staff who have not yet attended a session are invited this week. Supervisors should ensure office coverage during the meetings.

11th Tuberculosis Management Seminar Planned

Solving the Puzzle of TB Control will be presented Sept. 20-22 at The Galt House in Louisville. Topics to be discussed at this year’s seminar include: TB 101, epidemiology of TB, contact investigations, interviewing skills, laboratory update, TB/HIV, multi-drug resistant TB, cultural issues affecting public health services, and immigration concerns. Presenters include representatives from the Southeastern National Tuberculosis Center and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Information regarding agenda and registration will be provided soon. Questions may be directed to Melissa Dalton Hopkins, social work consultant/health planner, Kentucky TB Control Program at (502) 564-4276, ext. 3690, or melissad.hopkins@ky.gov.

Employee Recognition Committee Seeks Members

By Shannon Ramsey, KCCVS

The CHFS Employee Recognition Committee’s mission is “to provide an environment where each CHFS employee understands the importance of their job, is valued, and recognized for his or her contributions, resulting in great pride and enthusiasm in the workplace.”

If recognition of a job well done, and promoting teamwork, positive work environments, communication and creativity are important to you, consider joining the CHFS Employee Recognition Committee (ERC).

The ERC does more than plan annual Cabinet-wide recognition events. Members also help promote employee recognition activities and observances at all levels, review existing division or department employee recognition programs, and help improve or create programs. The committee also compiles and makes available employee recognition resources that provide further information and ideas for office programs for formal or informal recognition.

The ERC hopes to have member representatives from each Cabinet department or division to better ensure inclusion and a broad range of ideas and input.

Let your voice be heard and make a difference in your workplace. The ERC meets about once a month, and meetings last no longer than an hour. If you are interested in joining the ERC, please get supervisory approval and e-mail [Terri Cook](mailto:Terri.Cook). To learn more, visit the [ERC intranet site](#).

CHFS Employee Recognition Committee Members

Judy Bates, Department for Medicaid Services

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Julie Brooks, Department for Disability Determination Services
Dorothy Brown, Office of Human Resource Management
Gloria Clark, Department for Public Health
Terri Cook, ERC Chair - Office of Human Resource Management
Maranda Cummins, Office of Human Resource Management
Laura Hall, Mental Health, Mental Retardation
Martha McClain, Office of Inspector General
Joy Mills, Office of Ombudsman
Shannon Ramsey, Department for Human Support Services
Terry Tindle, Mental Health, Mental Retardation
Dawn Williams, Office of Human Resource Management

Employee Recognition Committee Participates in Health Fair

The CHFS Employee Recognition Committee (ERC) was eager to participate in the CHFS Health fair. You may ask what employee recognition has to do with health. Well, the teams theme was Recognized Employees = Happy Employees = Healthy Employees. Statistics show employees that are recognized for their contributions, have increased positive employee morale, stay with the organization longer, and have increased quality outcomes! The ERC provided recognition notes where guests could write a note recognizing a co-worker. See recognition comments on the OHRM intranet site at:
<http://chfsnet.ky.gov/afa/ohrm/06emprecog.htm>.

Kentucky to Launch ePrescribing Grant Program

Funds will Electronically Connect Physicians, Pharmacists in Kentucky Communities

Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Secretary Mark D. Birdwhistell announced today that CHFS and the Kentucky e-Health Network Board will launch a new ePrescribing grant

program for physicians, pharmacists, and other health care providers.

ePrescribing allows for secure, interactive communication between physicians and pharmacies for the submission of prescriptions, refill authorizations, and other patient-based information related to pharmaceuticals. By using technology, rather than pens and paper, it has the potential to dramatically reduce medical errors and increase efficiency.

The \$300,000 program, part of Kentucky's growing e-health movement, is made possible by a \$150,000 matching grant from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky obtained recently by CHFS and the e-Health Network Board. Working in conjunction with the board and other organizations such as the Kentucky Medical Association, CHFS will solicit grant applications beginning in summer 2006 from partnerships of physicians and other interested health care organizations.

“This funding will assist physicians and other stakeholders as they transition from a paper-based system of health care to an electronic health network,” said Birdwhistell. “This will make health care safer and more efficient for patients and clinicians alike, while helping to lay the groundwork for a statewide electronic health information system. We’re excited about getting started and moving Kentucky e-Health forward.”

The program will award grants to partnerships of physicians that invest collectively in ePrescribing technology in up to four Kentucky communities. These grants will match up to \$90,000 in ePrescribing and electronic medical record (EMR) investment by community partnerships that apply and are selected. Physicians are encouraged to partner with members of other practice groups, as well as with other organizations within their community, such as clinics, hospitals, health plans or employers. The grants will help fund the

purchase of technology or services necessary to begin ePrescribing, either in a standalone system or within a more robust EMR system.

“The Foundation is very excited about partnering with the Cabinet and the e-Health Board on this project,” said Dr. Susan Zepeda, executive director of the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. “It has the potential to make health care safer and more affordable for Kentuckians.”

Leaders of the e-Health Network Board also expressed their support for the program.

“Even though the tools are available, few physician offices take advantage of health information technology today due to its high cost,” said Dr. Carol Steltenkamp, an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and co-chair of the e-Health Network Board. “This program will help physicians overcome financial barriers while encouraging community health care leaders to work together on e-health.”

Dr. Larry Cook, executive vice president for health sciences at the University of Louisville and the other co-chair of the e-Health Board, echoed these statements. “As a physician and a health care administrator, I see the need for increased collaboration and information sharing every day. The ePrescribing program is a good first step toward those goals.”

Secretary Birdwhistell made the announcement today during the monthly meeting of the Kentucky e-Health Network Board, the entity charged with leading Kentucky to a statewide electronic health network.

The goal of Kentucky’s e-Health efforts is to improve health care by using technology and collaboration to provide Kentuckians with health information that is useful, timely, and accurate. A secure, integrated e-Health Network could reduce medical errors, improve patient privacy,

lower administrative costs and help make electronic medical records available to Kentuckians. The effort positions Kentucky to meet the goal set forth by President Bush for most Americans to have electronic medical records by 2014.

More information about the e-Health Network and its board members can be found at www.chfs.ky.gov/ehealth.

CHFS Focus Health Tip: May is National Facial Protection Month

Almost 160,000 people sustain injuries to their faces each year while bike riding or playing baseball. In April people started dusting off their in-line skates, bicycles and scooters and cruising the great outdoors. This month, *CHFS Focus* urges you to remember to protect your face and head while participating in outdoor activities.

Helmets matter – Any activity where your head is at risk is one in which a helmet should be worn. When purchasing a helmet, make sure it sits on top of your head in a level position, covers the forehead and does not move around when on your head. Pay attention to the chinstrap. Make sure the strap fits around your ears and under your chin comfortably. A multi-sport helmet can accommodate a variety of activities.

Mouth guards make a difference – According to the National Youth Sports Safety Foundation, children, high school athletes and college athletes will have more than five million teeth knocked out in sporting activities this year. Properly fitted mouth guards absorb shock when an individual takes a fall or receives a blow. Teeth are frequently saved, jaws are protected from breaks and concussions are prevented. Mouth guards also protect against neck injuries and central nervous system injuries by decreasing the force transmitted through the jaw joint to the base of the skull.

Don't be a victim – Be smart. Protect yourself and loved ones from easily preventable injuries. Save your face by wearing sports safety equipment. Do not let an injury sideline you from your favorite activities.

Employee Enrichment

By Anya Armes Weber

Employee Enrichment is a weekly feature for CHFS staff. These tips for making work better focus on team building, customer service and personal development.



Gaining self-confidence isn't complicated, according to author Adam Khan. In his book, "Self-Help Stuff That Works," Khan asserts that the opposite of self-confidence is self-consciousness. When you are feeling self-conscious, your attention is too focused on yourself and you don't have a clear purpose.

At work, if you are feeling self-conscious, you may be bored with or uncertain about your assignments. Try to commit yourself to a new project or find a way to reconnect yourself to what you have to do. Create a personal goal that reflects your work responsibilities. When your intentions are clear and you are working hard to achieve them, you will gain confidence.