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**DIABETES INITIATIVE**  
A National Program of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



*Models for the Use of  
Community Health Workers in  
Diabetes Self Management*

AADE Annual Meeting  
Los Angeles, August 2006

**Carol A. Brownson**



# *Diabetes Initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

*Real world demonstration of self management as part of high quality diabetes care in primary care and community settings*



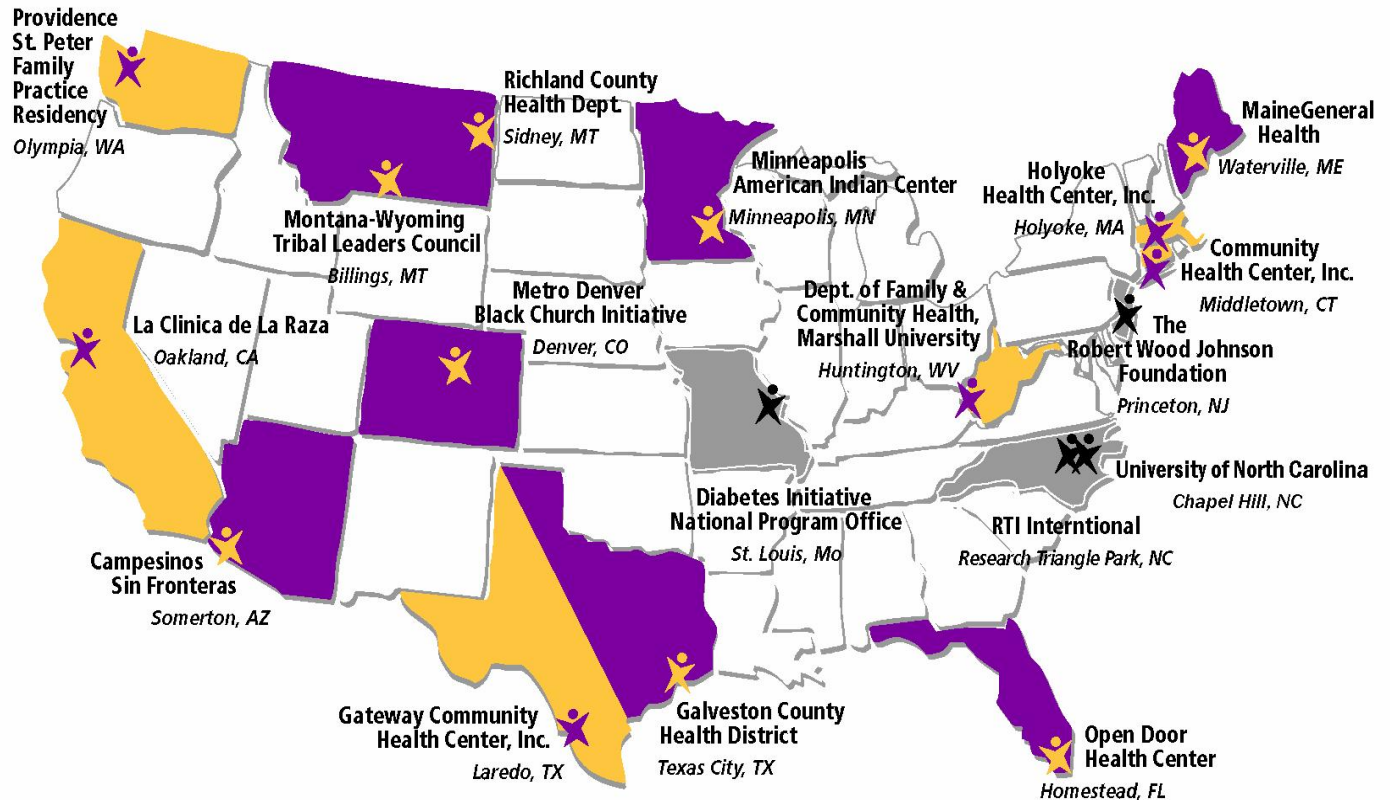
**Advancing  
Diabetes  
Self Management**



**Building  
Community Supports  
for Diabetes Care**

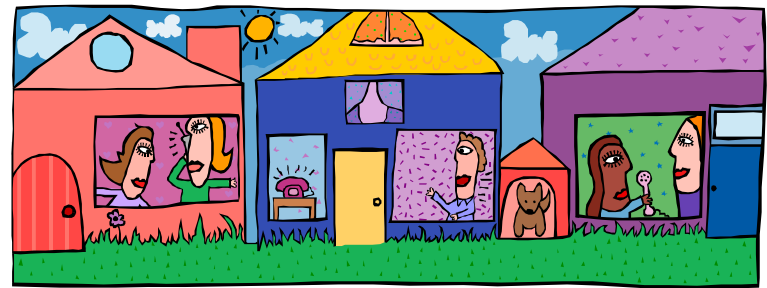


# The 14 Sites of the Diabetes Initiative





# *Community Health Workers (CHWs)*

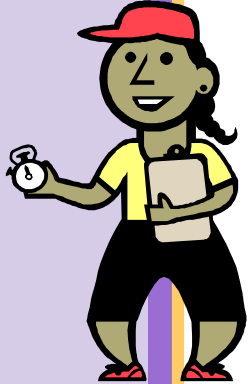


Community Health Workers are trained peer outreach workers who are trusted and respected in their communities who serve as a bridge between their peers and the health care system

- CHWs are key to the interventions in 8 of the 14 sites of the Diabetes Initiative
- 4 are community based; 4 are clinic based



## *Community Health Workers in the Diabetes Initiative*



- “Coaches” in Galveston lead DSM courses in their respective neighborhoods
- “Lay Health Educators” in Maine provide support and encouragement for physical activity to co-workers, teach self-management courses and advocate for community trails
- “Community Health Representatives” in MT-WY participate in self management classes and provide follow up support after classes
- Elders who form the Community Council at the Minneapolis American Indian Center guide program direction and teach self management classes to peers
- *Promotoras* are key to the services of 4 DI sites



## *Focus of CHW contacts in the Diabetes Initiative*

80%

- Providing assistance
  - encouragement or motivation ★
  - helping to set a goal
  - emotional support
  - giving health information (education)
  - personal needs (e.g. transportation, translation, filling out forms, etc.)
- Teaching or practicing diabetes self management skills (e.g., AADE 7) (diet, PA, glucose monitoring)
- Monitoring and follow-up on participant progress
- Recruiting participants, inviting them to participate in programs and services
- Making a referral (health and/or social services)
- Making client aware of rights, services available, etc. (advocacy)



# Panelists...

- **Lourdes Rangel**, Director of Special Projects  
Gateway Community Health Center, Laredo TX  
*"The Role of the Promotora in a Comprehensive System of Care"*
- **Joan Thompson**, Supervisor, Preventive Medicine  
Department  
La Clinica de la Raza Fruitvale Health Project,  
Oakland CA  
*"Use of Health Promoters for diabetes support in Mexican-Americans"*
- **Darlene Cass**, Diabetes Educator  
Galveston County Health District, Galveston TX  
*"Take Action Galveston"*



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## The Role of the *Promotora* in a Comprehensive System of Care

AADE Annual Meeting  
Los Angeles, August 2006  
**Lourdes Rangel**



- ❖ Gateway Community Health Center
- ❖ Data
- ❖ Integration of the *Promotora Model* into the Medical Component
- ❖ Results



# Demographics



- ◆ Located in Laredo, Texas (along U.S.-Mexico Border)
- ◆ Began operations in 1963
- ◆ Center offers a wide array of medical care services provided by physicians and/or mid-level practitioners
- ◆ Over 75,000 medical, dental, and specialty care patient visits were provided in 2005 (172% increase in 5 years)
- ◆ Patient Demographics
  - 98.5% Hispanic
  - 98% of patients live below 200% federal poverty level
  - 63% uninsured

## Mission Statement

*“To improve the health status of the people we serve in Webb County and surrounding areas by striving to provide high quality medical, mental and dental care; health promotion and disease management services in a professional, personal, and cost effective manner.”*



Gateway	Texas	U.S.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>99% Hispanic</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>32% Hispanic</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>13% Hispanic</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>63% Uninsured</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>25% Uninsured</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>16% Uninsured</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>16% have diabetes</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>8% of Hispanic adults have diabetes</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>13.6% of Hispanic adults have diabetes, almost twice that for non-Hispanic whites</b></li></ul>

- **In Webb County, one in six adults has type 2 diabetes.**
- **Webb County also has one of the highest mortality rates for Type 2 diabetes in the state.**
- **Diabetes and Hypertension are the two main diagnosis at Gateway with 2,807 patients with diabetes and 2,303 with hypertension.**



# Collaborative Partnerships

- **National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute**
- **Human Resources Services Administration**
- **Pan American Health Organization**
- **Department of State Health Services**
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**
- **Pfizer Health Solutions Inc.**
- **Methodist Healthcare Ministries**
- **UT Health Science Center San Antonio-Dental School**
- **Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus**



- **Patients**
- **Family Members**
- **Medical Providers**
- **Certified Diabetes Educator**
- **Medical Support Staff**
- **Promotoras**
- **Board of Directors**
- **Administrators**



# Services for Patients with Diabetes

- **Drug Assistance Program**
- **Dental Hygiene Services**
- **Medical Services**
- **Podiatry Clinic**
- **Minor Behavior Health**
- **Disease Management Courses**
- **Diabetic Supplies** (\$10.00 co-pay)
- **Yearly Eye Exam** (\$20.00 co-pay)
- **Assistance with Laser Surgery**
- **Glaucoma Screening** (Free)





# Comprehensive System of Care for Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Management

## Main Components

1. Provider Internalization of Self-management principles;
2. An infrastructure that supports the volume yet provides some consumer choices regarding delivery;
3. A system of referral, follow-up, feedback and documentation that produces integrated and consistent self-management clinical practice;
4. A system that recognizes, manages chronic illness, and related negative emotions.





# Promotoras (Community Health Workers) Self-Management Intervention

## Topics Include

### Diabetes Group Classes

10 week curriculum



- Understanding what diabetes is
- Medication
- Strategies and benefits of good diabetes control
- Mental health
- Importance of blood sugar monitoring
- Partnership with healthcare team
- Nutrition
- Identifying and prevent diabetes complications
- Lifestyle behaviors (physical activity, weight management, smoking cessation)
- Social support
- Preventive care
- Problem solving
- Community resources

### Support Groups

Reinforces topics from classes



Promotoras:

*Assess patient needs*

*Individual contacts, as needed*

*Patient advocate*

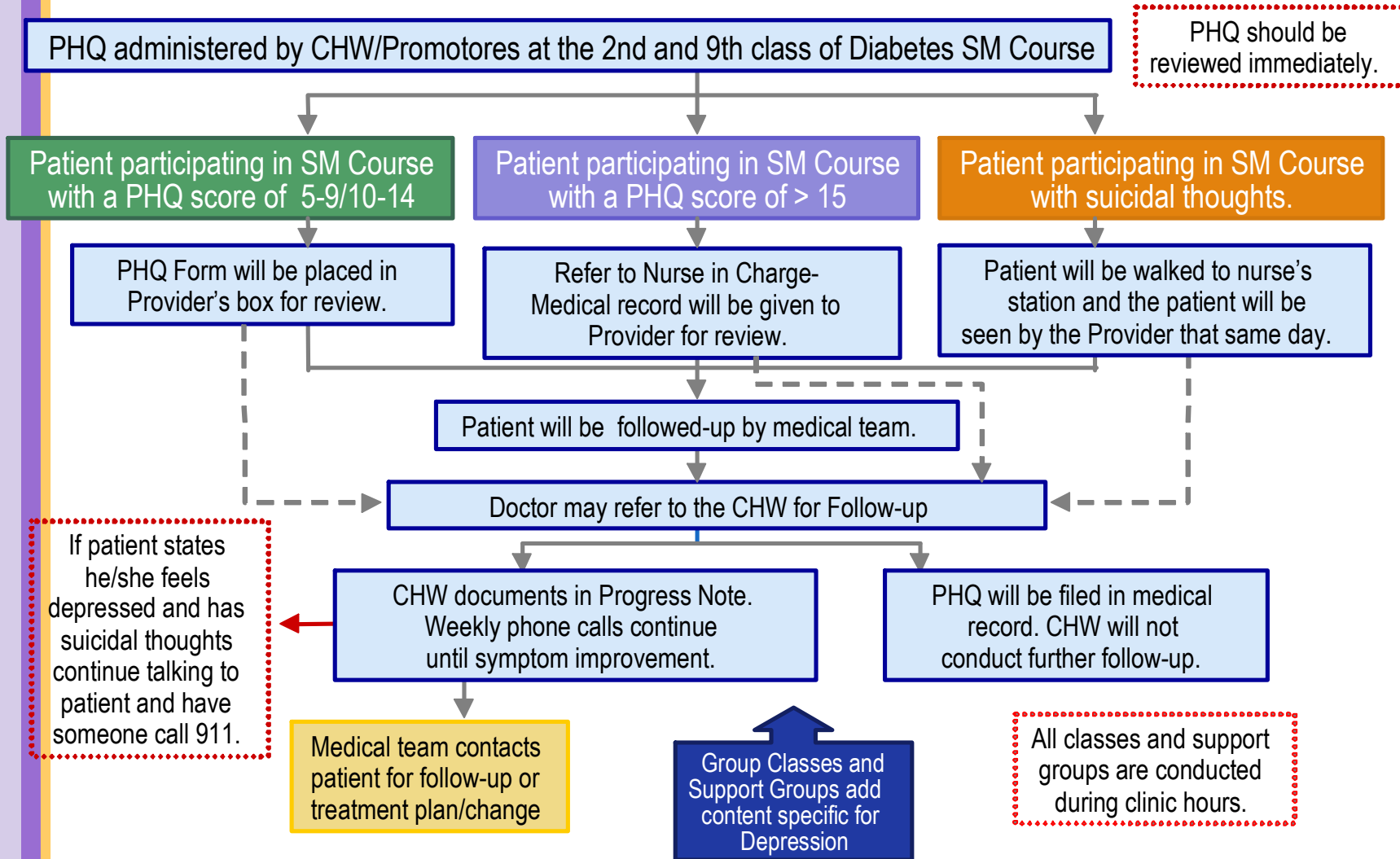
*Liaison to healthcare Team*

*Documentation*





# CHW Protocol for Depression





## 300 Hours of Training

- ✓ Clinic Site Orientation
- ✓ Medical Records
- ✓ Diabetes Self Management
- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Time Management
- ✓ Listening Skills
- ✓ How To Make a Home Visit and Referrals
- ✓ Advocacy
- ✓ Promotora Safety
- ✓ Problem Solving
- ✓ Mental Health Training
- ✓ Stress Management
- ✓ Support Group Facilitation
- ✓ Community Resources
- ✓ Communication Skills



➤ Skills List

➤ 3-month

➤ 12-month

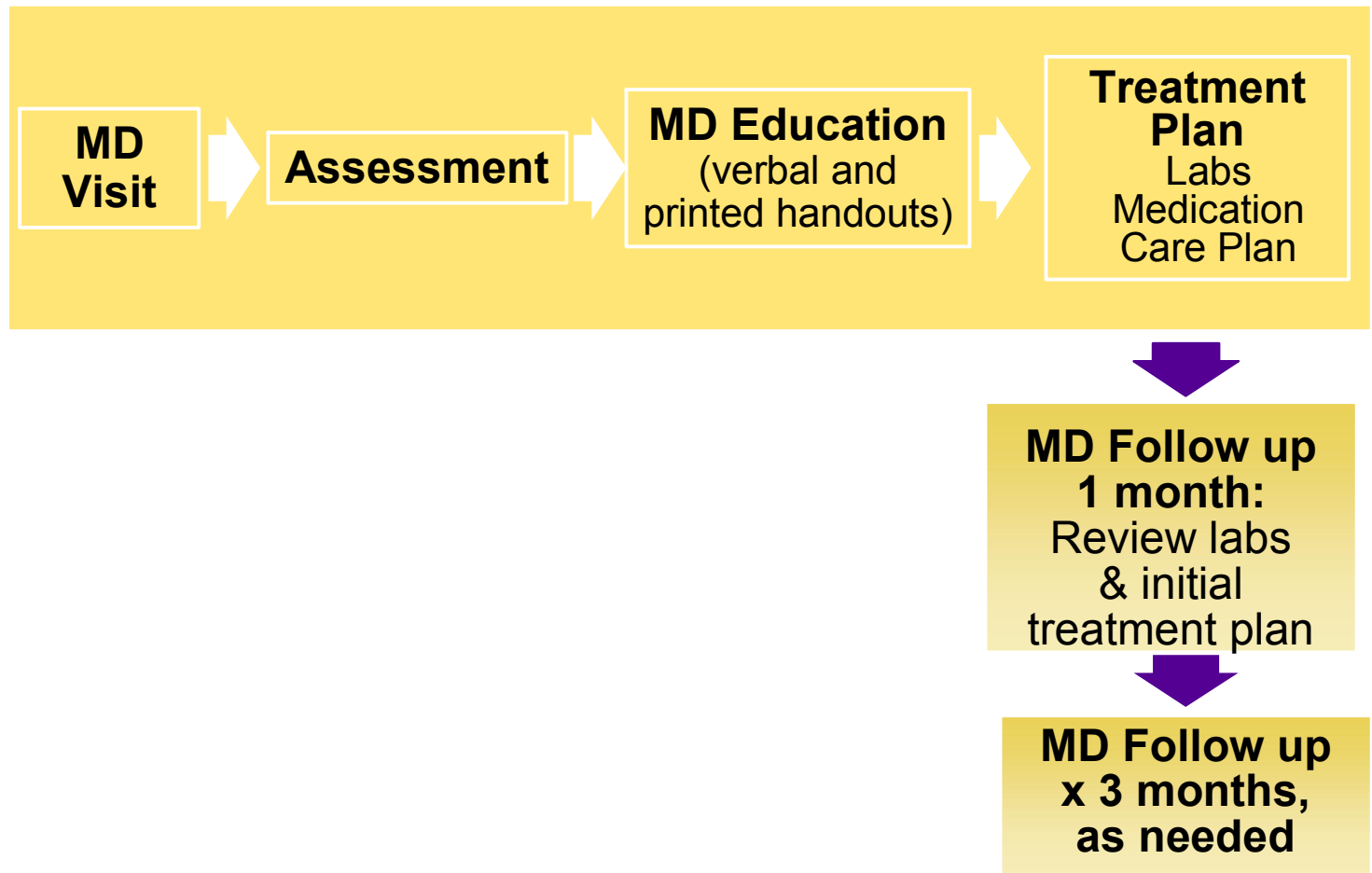
➤ Patient



# Standard Care

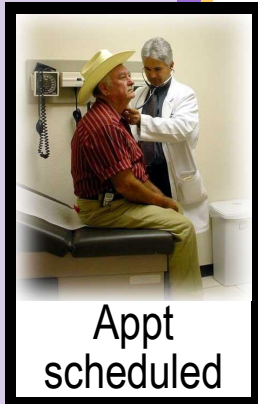


Appt  
scheduled

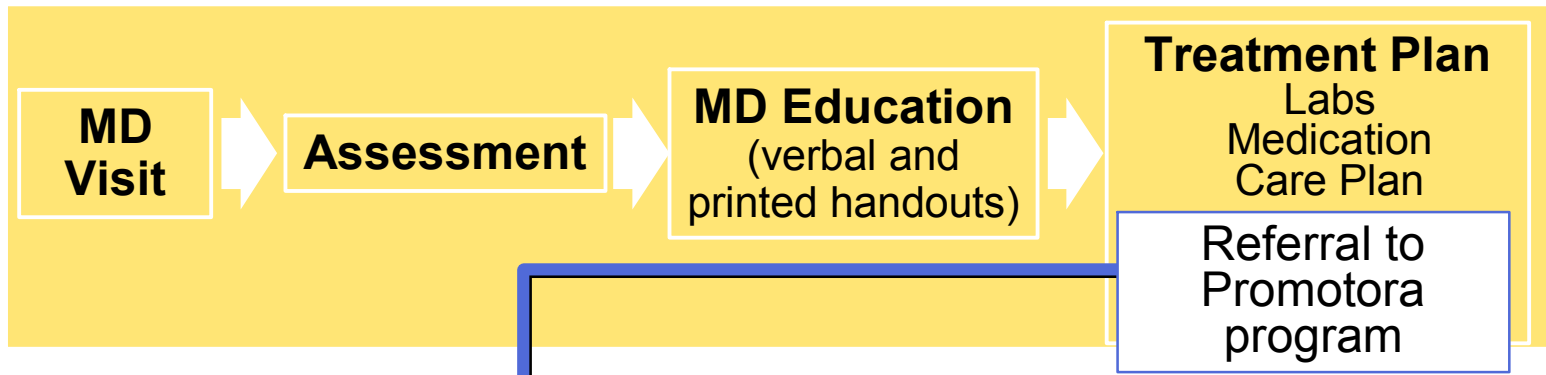




# Care that Includes Promotoras (CHW)



Appt scheduled



Promotoras

Group classes and individual support

## Extensive Education

- Using glucose meter
- Education on medication
- How to check feet
- How to identify complications
- Support for lifestyle changes

MD Follow up 1 month:  
Review labs & initial treatment plan

Patient educated and more informed

MD Follow up x 3 months, as needed

MD visits are more focused, less follow up required



# Benefits of Promotora Program



## To Providers

More efficient use of time

Improved diabetes control

Assessment of social needs/concerns

Reinforce treatment plan

Extension of Providers services

Health advocate / additional clinic services and referrals

Implement clinical protocols

## To Patients

More time received on education

Improved health outcomes

Individualized care

Greater adherence

Improved access to care

Specific needs met by appropriate referrals

Improved quality of care



# Success Story

## Profile

- **Mr. Emilio Resendiz**
- **Hispanic**
- **30 years of age**
- **Patient since 2003**
- **Married**



## Medical History

- **Diabetes Type 2**
- **Hypertension**

## Medications

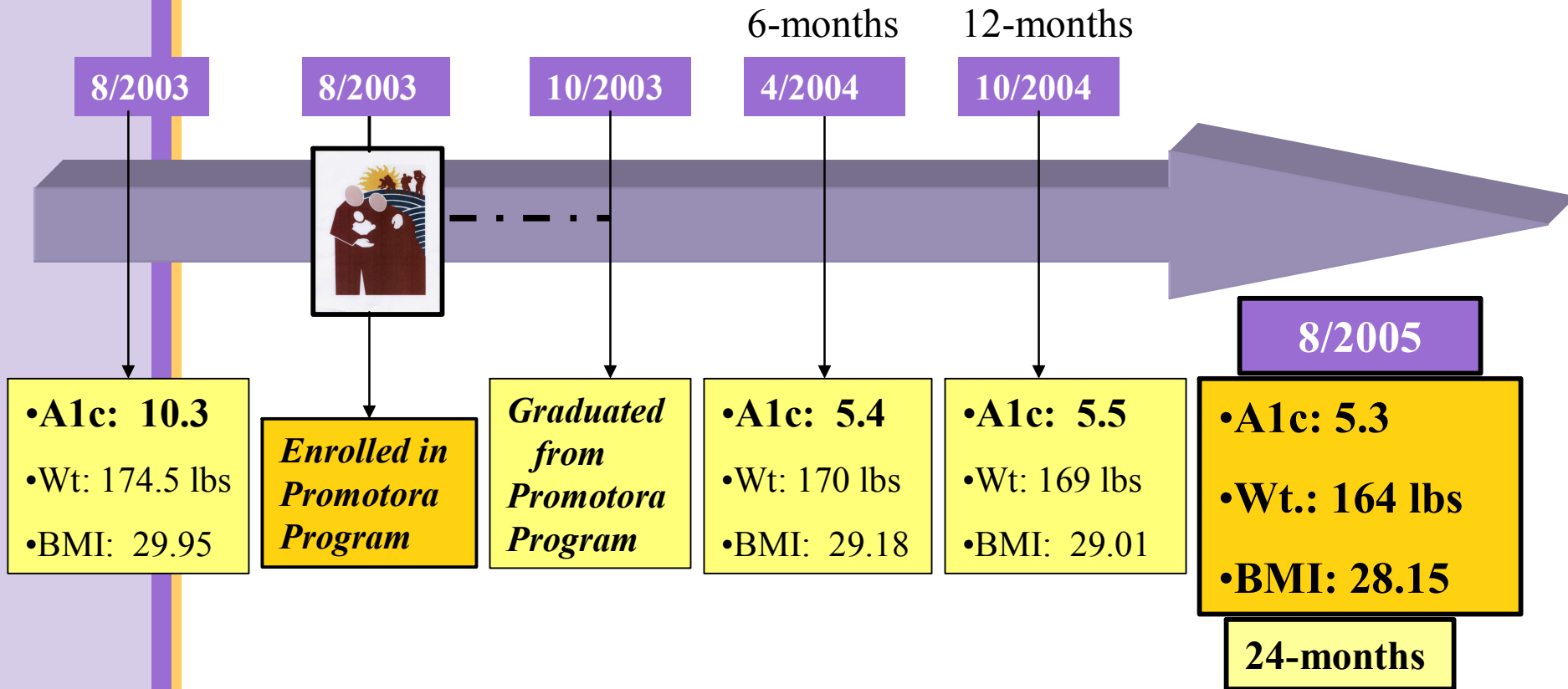
- **Glyburide 1.25mg**
- **Enalapril 2.5mg**

## Medications

- **Glyburide 1.25mg (½ tab daily)**
- **Enalapril 2.5mg (½ tab daily)**



# Success Story-Progress





# Thank You!

**Self Management is the key to good control of diabetes and emotional health...**



**Promotoras play an important role.**





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*Use of Health Promoters for  
diabetes support in Mexican-  
Americans*

2006 AADE Annual Meeting

Los Angeles, August 9-12, 2006

**Joan Thompson, PhD, MPH, RD, CDE**



# *La Clinica de la Raza - Profile*

Serves over 40,000 patients a year

- 84% Latino
- 85% <200 % federal poverty level

Insurance coverage

- 50% no insurance
- 40% Medicaid or Medicare
- 10% private insurance



# *Project Description*

## **Goal:**

Provide diabetes self management support by initiating a health promoter program

## **Target Population:**

Patients with A1c>8 and/or inadequate social support

## **Patient Recruitment:**

Provider referral

## **Enrollment:**

Period varies from 6 mo to 3 years

## **Implementation**

Promoters provide one on one counseling and facilitate group activities. All patients receive usual care (RD visits, access to classes, provider visits)



# *Description of Promoters*

## **Recruitment:**

- Provider referral
- Must have diabetes or a family member with diabetes.
- Ten active promoters at any one time

## **Status:**

- Volunteer with stipend
- Undocumented

## **Language and literacy**

- Monolingual Spanish speaking
- Wide range of literacy level (0 – 18 yrs formal education)

## **Characteristics:**

- All are women, most with young children
- A desire to help others
- Good interpersonal skills
- Accessibility at the patient's convenience
- Willingness to be accepted as part of a patient's family
- All are seen as leaders in their community/neighborhood



# *Initial Training*

## Training

- Diabetes self management – initially 10 sessions (2 hr each)
- Collaborative goal setting, action plans and problem solving
- Group facilitation
- Confidentiality
- Stages of change and processes of change



# *On-going Training*

Some topics are:

- Glucose meter training
- Medications
- Depression and stress management - 18 hours
- Cardiovascular disease
- Benefits of physical activity
- Carbohydrate counting, meal planning, alcohol
- Stages of change model updates
- Smoking cessation
- Food stamps and food bank
- How to use emergency services
- Medicare
- Complications of diabetes
- Asthma



# *Promoter Activities*

## **Individual**

- Stage patient for readiness to change
- Counsel 1 on 1 according to stage of change

## **Group**

- Teach diabetes classes (2 x/wk)
- Lead Circle of Friends group (3 x/wk)
- Help with depression group (1x/wk)
- Lead walking club (3x/wk)
- Home visits to work with the families

## **Community**

- Make presentations in the community
- Tabling at Farmers Market
- Help at health fair





# *Stages of Change*

## Steps:

- Determine readiness to change
- Use “Guide to Stages of Change Interventions” to facilitate behavior change in the following areas:
  - Following a meal plan
  - Doing physical activity
  - Taking medicines as indicated
  - Monitoring blood sugar
- Set a goal if the patient is in the Preparation stage.



# *Circle of Friends (Support Group)*

## Activities

- Relaxation techniques
- Arts and crafts
- English as a second language
- Discussion and mutual support



# *Integration of promoters into clinic*

- Related to the Diabetes project Previously cited group activities
  - Case conferencing quarterly with the doctors
  - Provide weekly relaxation class
- Spread beyond the diabetes project
  - Assist in classes for parents of overweight children on parenting around feeding issues
  - Help design structured learning activities to do in child care (while their parents are attending the class)
  - Attended the pilot series of parenting classes and provided feedback for revising curriculum
  - Became members of our Parent Advisory Council for providing self management support for parents of overweight children



## *What contributes to our success?*

- Full acceptance by the medical providers
- Good inter-personal skills of the promoters
- Adequate on-going training and support
- Accessibility to the patients



## *Pamphlets on Stages of Change (Diabetes)*

Available on <http://lumetra.com>

Guide to Stages of Change Interventions:  
Using the trans-theoretical model for your patients with diabetes.

- Monitoring blood sugar
- Using a meal plan
- Taking medicine
- Exercise



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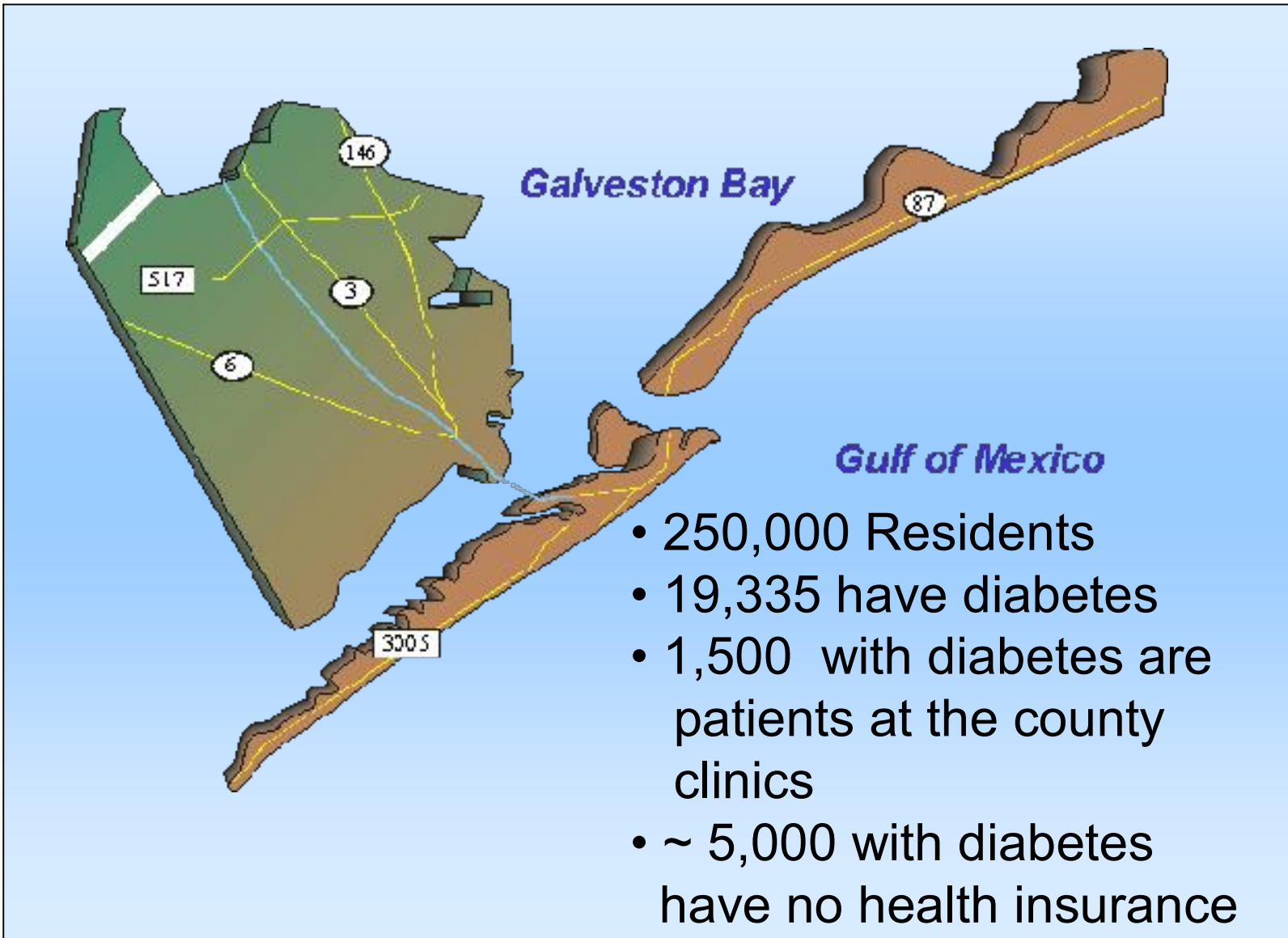
## *Take Action Galveston*

**A Diabetes Self-Management Program**

AADE Annual Meeting  
Los Angeles, August 2006  
**Darlene Cass, RN**



# Galveston County Texas







# *Take Action*

## *A Diabetes Self-Management Program*

- Take Action curriculum is an interactive program that includes the AADE 7
- Goal setting at each class, a Goal Tracker and follow up reporting
- Individual Medical Record
- Workbook of worksheets to assist participants in understanding their current diabetes management and where they are ready to make changes



# *Take Action Galveston*

## Our Project:

- Provide diabetes education in the community in non-traditional settings
- Recruit and train Community Health Coaches using the Train the Trainer Model and the Take Action, A Diabetes Self-Management Program.



# *Community Health Coach Classes*

Community Health Coaches – 53

Number of class locations - 20

Community classes – 5 are on going

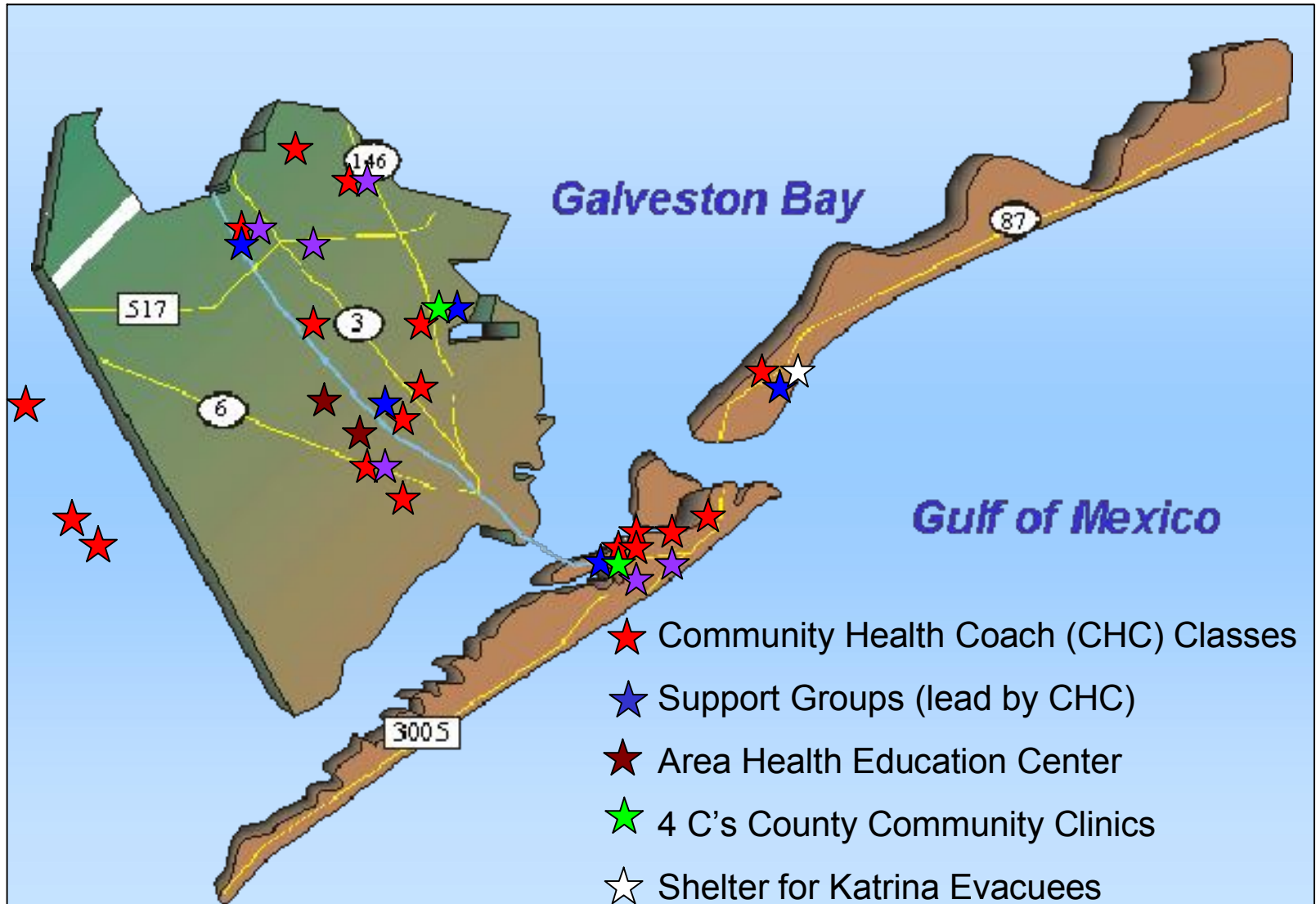
- 328 individuals

Community Support Groups

- 105 individuals



# Take Action Class Locations





# Class Sites





## *Coach “Recruitment”*

- Participants in the Take Action Classes
- Community Health Nurses
- Parish Nurses
- Area Health Education Center staff
- Texas Cooperative Extension agent
- Local pharmacists
- Interested community members
- Medical students and nursing students



# *Training and Support*

## **Training**

- Coach manual
- Tool Box
- Power Point presentation
- 12 hours of training

## **Support**

- Monthly phone contact
- Assist with setting up classes and delivering supplies and certificates
- Quarterly coach luncheons
- Quarterly TAG (Take Action Galveston) Newsletter



# *Shining Stars*







# *Common Characteristics of a Community Health Coach*

- Eager and willing to learn new things
- Flexible
- Positive and encouraging
- Committed
- Strong desire to help others

Coach's with diabetes want to share their experiences and show you can take control of diabetes



# *Whisking Your Way to Health*

- Series of five classes
- Hands on
- Topics
  - Reducing sugar, fat and salt in recipes
  - Meal planning
  - Adding flavor with herbs, spices, citrus and vegetables
  - Portion sizes
  - Grocery Store Tour





# *Spreading the word*

## Take Action participants

- Student manuals
- Participants take the information to family members and friends
- Trained health professionals in 2 other counties to teach Take Action in their communities
- Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
  - Trained 19 AHEC staff to train members of their local community to teach Take Action and Whisking Your Way to Health



# Take Action







# *What makes CHWs effective?*

- CHWs have access to the population they serve
- They have passion and commitment
- The unique relationship they have with clients provides social support that is critical to self management
- This trusting relationship lays the foundation for good self management
- CHW's have greater flexibility to meet clients needs, e.g., time, place, scope
- They have the training and support to fulfill their various roles





# Questions?

*Thank You!*