



ASMHTP Connections

A quarterly newsletter for those interested in the multicultural perspective in health care and transplantation.

American Society of Multicultural Health and Transplant Professionals

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The President's Corner



Expanding the Scope of ASMHTP

On behalf of the members of ASMHTP, we would like to welcome our president for 2003-2004, Mr. Cliff McClenney.

Cliff looks forward to his term as President and has begun to implement plans for "expanding the scope of ASMHTP." His professional role as Regional Administrator for the United Network for Organ Sharing has given him insight to assist the organization in forging ahead with his plan.

McClenney thinks enhancing the organization through membership recruitment is an important

first step. "If every member would take the time to extend an invitation to one other person to join our organization, our membership would double," said McClenney. He also believes that "the new members can bring different view points, levels of expertise and commitment to work at the committee level. The real work gets done at that level, and every member should serve on a committee."

The President's goals for the year include upgrading the website as well as an expansion of ASMHTP's input on policy proposals and regulations that affect procurement and transplantation. He also looks forward to ASMHTP's facilitation of a workshop and the production of resource materials to improve donation rates among minorities.

Collaboration Announced to Increase Donation Among Minorities

Former NBA star and ESPN/ABC commentator, Sean Elliott, announced a national education campaign to promote organ donation among U.S. minority communities at the American Society of Minority Health Transplant Professionals (ASMHTP) 11th Annual Meeting. Elliott, the recipient of a live donor kidney, has agreed to serve as the national spokesman for this 'Closing the Gap' public education campaign. Led by ASMHTP, the campaign is being designed as a joint venture among many of the nation's professional transplant and minority medical organizations.

In the year-long, nationwide initiative, participating organizations and professional societies will enlist their members in the dissemination of educational materials and information to minority communities at a local level.

"The collaboration of so many professional organizations has enormous potential to reach minority communities. We've formed a network of professionals who routinely communicate directly with the target audiences in a one-on-one setting," said incoming ASMHTP president, Clifton McClenney. As a regional administrator for the United Network for Organ Sharing, McClenney works closely with transplant professionals from around the country. "In addition to mass media dissemination, we'll employ good, old-fashioned, face-to-face communication to spread the word."

The campaign will emphasize the awareness messages

devised specifically for minority audiences by the Coalition on Donation; the Division of Transplantation (DoT), a component of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and the National Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program (National MOTTEP):

- The need: unique health issues of minorities, transplant demand among minorities and the limited pool of organs for transplantation.
- Only you have the power to save lives.
- Talk to your family about Donating Life. A conversation with your family will take place before donation can happen, so they need to know your wishes. Protect your health and prevent the need for a future transplant.

The campaign will involve the following components.

- Distribution of existing educational and awareness materials produced by the Coalition on Donation, DoT, and MOTTEP for minority audiences through members of the National Medical Association (NMA). The NMA distribution will make the materials available in the waiting rooms of family practice physicians in minority communities, health clinics and hospitals that have transplant programs, as well as churches and houses of worship.

(Cont'd on Page 3)

Abstract Presentations—Sharing, Learning, Creating

At the recent Annual Meeting, a total of 16 abstracts were accepted, three oral presentations and thirteen poster presentations. Each abstracts fit the theme of the meeting, “Bridging the Gap: Consent Among Diverse Populations.” In each issue of ASMHTP Connections, we will be presenting the summaries of four presentations. Enjoy!

Utilization of Culturally Similar Staff Increases Consent Rates in Spanish Language Donation Requests

Ester Padilla, MSW – California Transplant Donor Network – Oakland, CA

This study compared the use of culturally similar staff versus non-culturally similar staff for 293 approaches of Hispanic/Latino families. Family language preference was one of the key variables observed (Language preference = 145 English, 148 Spanish).

The study concluded that when the utilization of culturally similar OPO staff for organ donation requests of Hispanic/Latino families is implemented, it has been demonstrated most effective in those situations where Spanish is the preferred language of discussion.

Decision for Life: An Intervention to Increase Organ Donation in the African American and Hispanic Communities

V. Dent, M. Simon, J. Tamburlin, E. Kraus and C. Rice – Upstate New York Transplant Services and State University of New York at Buffalo – Buffalo, NY
Funded by HRSA, DoT

This research focused on increasing African American (AA) and Hispanic donation rates by incorporating a module on donation into the medical school curriculum utilizing standardized patients to increase physician’s awareness of their role in educating patients about donation in a culturally sensitive manner, and implementation of a culturally sensitive educational program for these minority communities. Knowledge, attitudes, and actions taken toward donation were compared pre and post intervention.

This study resulted in a statistically significant increase in knowledge, improved attitudes toward donation, and positive responses to action items including discussing donation in AA participants. Slightly lower rates were obtained for Hispanics. The study also observed a significant increase in the consent rate for African Americans during the course of this intervention, and has increased positive interactions between these communities and the OPO.

Cultural Awareness: More Than Just A Language Barrier – A Consent Strategy

Tomas L. Mendoza, Luis Sanchez, RN, CPTC – OneLegacy – Los Angeles, CA

The objective of this study was to increase the organ recovery from Level One Trauma Centers with the specific interest of increasing donation from minority populations. With the adaptation of “Hispanic Ethnically Like Requesters” this study focused on specific cultural sensitivity with particular attention to newly arrived immigrants and first and second generation Hispanic Americans.

This study concluded that translation of the language is not enough. Developing a bereavement strategy that fully encompasses “cultural awareness and sensitivity” is vital for a successful Hispanic consent program. Practicing cultural competence can help expand and improve access to quality health care and increase the likelihood that minority families will understand and participate in the nation’s organ, blood, and tissue donation programs.

Take Time to Talk: Improving Communication between Recovery Professionals and Funeral Directors in 3 Pilot Geographic Areas

Gigi Politoski, BA; Catherin Paykin, MSSW – National Kidney Foundation – New York, NY

Linda Singleton-Driscoll, BA, MBA – Southeastern Institute of Research – Richmond, VA
Funded by HRSA, OSP, DoT

This study focused on increasing cooperation of funeral directors in the organ and tissue donation process using education via mailings and personal contacts. Pre and post attitude surveys were utilized to measure intervention outcomes.

In conclusion, having organ/tissue professionals take the first step to establish dialog with funeral directors at a local level can make a noticeable difference. However, they need to be armed with a list of possible steps to get them started.

To Janice Whaley, Our 2002-2003 President:

Thank you!

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Gracias

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Asante

Danh tở sè nhiÒu

Anyway you look at it, it's all thanks! Thank you for all you've done for ASMHTP!!!

ASMHTP Committees and Chairs for 2004

Planning Committee: The Planning Committee shall develop a cohesive plan for facilitating the development and implementation of the programs of ASMHTP. *Chair: Tommy Frieson*

Bylaws Committee: The Bylaws Committee shall propose rules under the Bylaws to govern the affairs of this organization. This committee will rule on the meaning of the Bylaws whenever such action is needed. *Chair: Deserine Fernandes*

Research Committee: The Research Committee is charged with increasing the productivity of ASMHTP by providing direction and producing research and data collection pertaining to donation and transplantation as it relates to minority communities.

Chair: Victoria Dent

Fundraising Committee: The Fundraising Committee shall be responsible for the solicitation of funds for the organization and submit to the Board of Directors recommendations as to the distribution and use of any and all funds raised by the committee. *Chair: Shawnte Williams*

Membership Committee: The Membership Committee shall determine the form of the application for membership and review all applications for full, associate, and honorary membership. This committee shall distribute copies of the current Bylaws to each new member as applications are approved. This committee shall receive any motion to suspend or expel a member and shall recommend to the Board of Directors in accordance with Article 4, Section 4 of the Bylaws. *Chair: Jeff Thomas*

Public Relations Committee: The Public/Media Relations Committee shall provide information regarding the purpose of this

organization to professionals in related fields, secure public awareness as to the purpose and function of the organization, work with the research/planning committee to publicize the Annual Meeting, publicize the projects and accomplishments of this organization, monitor the development and impact of legislation and regulations pertaining to donation and transplantation, and establish this organization as a resource of information for many minority issues in donation and transplantation. *Chair: Tereasa Parks-Thomas*

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors to fill vacancies on the Board as requested. In addition, the Committee shall conduct general elections. *Chair: Janice Whaley*

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee provides fiscal management of the organization, budgetary and fiscal planning. The Treasurer, who is the Chairperson of this committee, handles the financial operations of the organization. This includes receiving and depositing checks, paying bills, and filing tax returns. *Chair: Rudy Morgan*

Strategic Planning Committee: The Strategic Planning Committee shall strive to find strategies for the life of the organization and shall collaborate with the Planning Committee as that committee plans for the Annual Meeting. *Chair: Marilyn Campbell*

Multicultural Education Task Force: The Multicultural Education Task Force is charged with the responsibility of designing and implementing a workshop and related materials to improve donation rates among minorities. *Chair: Debbie Gibbs*

UNOS Establishes Cliff E. McClenney ASMHTP Travel Scholarship

The UNOS Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of an annual travel scholarship grant to the American Society of Multicultural Health and Transplant Professionals. This grant is being established in honor of Cliff McClenney who will serve as the President of ASMHTP for 2003-2004. The purpose of the grant is to provide scholarship funds to assist ASMHTP members in traveling to the ASMHTP Annual Meeting for furthering their professional careers and advancing organ donation and transplantation. The UNOS Foundation is donating \$10,000 to ASMHTP this year and plans to make contributions in subsequent years in the amount of \$5,000.

Collaboration (cont'd from page 1)

- Creation of a 'Closing the Gap' information page on the ASMHTP website with more in-depth information that reflects the materials of the Coalition on Donation, DoT, and MOTTEP.
- Placement of inspiring and informative minority donation stories in print, television, and entertainment media sources.
- Publication of abstracts and studies, clinical presentations that highlight clinical issues surrounding organ donation in minority communities.

'Closing the Gap' is an unprecedented collaboration of professional health organizations to address the particular needs of minority communities as they relate to organ health and the need for organ donation. To date, the following organizations have agreed to support the ASMHTP initiative: the United Network for Organ Sharing and the UNOS Foundation, the Coalition on Donation, the National Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program, the Department of Transplantation, the National Medical Association, The Links, Incorporated and its Linkage to Life Initiative, Association of Organ Procurement Organization, and the North American Transplant Coordinators Organization.

This initiative is made possible through support from the United Network for Organ Sharing and the UNOS Foundation.

Written by Ann Paske. Reprinted with the permission of UNOS.



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Save the Date!

ASMHTP 12th Annual Meeting:

“Expanding the Scope of ASMHTP”

September 15-17, 2004

Bayview Resort and Spa—Biloxi, Mississippi

We hope to see you there!

The mission of the American Society of Multicultural Health and Transplant Professionals is to promote organ and tissue donation and transplantation among minorities and to serve in a national advisory capacity for research and education on these and other health-related issues.

ASMHTP Connections is a newsletter provided quarterly by ASMHTP to its members and friends. We welcome articles for consideration in future issues of ASMHTP Connections or suggestions for articles. Please submit these to the ASMHTP offices.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission in the transplant and healthcare community!
