



THIRD QUARTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

# HEALTHLINE

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELLNESS

## FROM THE DESK OF DR. KATKOWSKY

Much of our time and resources, over the last few weeks, have been focused on dealing with a patient of the Department diagnosed with XDR – TB (Extensively Drug Resistant TB). This has been a major staple in the local and national news media. The patient is now hospitalized and is receiving the most appropriate care possible. We are conducting contact tracing and testing of close contacts as well as anyone requesting Tb skin testing.

I am looking forward to completing the development and implementation of the Reorganization Plan that so many of you have taken the time, effort and creative thought to see through to completion. The input of all who participated is appreciated and the final plan will include many of the ideas recommended by those who took part in the process.

The County will be implementing a new time and attendance program that is web based. It is designed to free up staff time currently used in dealing with the handling

of paper time sheets. It will also allow record keeping in a more reliable fashion. Further information on this will be coming as well as the necessary training in order to use the system.

The new HPV vaccine program is now up and running in our Clinical Services Division. This was made possible by the Board of Commissioners in our 2007 County Budget appropriation. The Board has also taken note and stated quite favorably of our repeat this year of the Farmer's Market Program in conjunction with the County Office on Aging and the Atlanta Regional Commission.

We continue to be moving into the role as a leading health department in the state by a number of objective program measures. We are beginning to be recognized for our efforts and creative thinking and programs. I urge everyone to make suggestions, offer input, and constructive criticism as we move ahead.



The summer is just beginning and many of us will be on vacation. I wish you good times, safe travel, and rest for your return with renewed energy as we meet the many health issues in our community. You have risen to meet the challenges in the past and I know will continue to do so in the future.

My door remains open to all without exception. Please call Glenda Robinson at (404) 730 - 1242 to schedule time to meet.

## NEW EMPLOYEES & RETIREES

- Dion Barquet, Center Hill
- Natalie N. Thompson, Children's Medical Services
- Mary L. Wade, North Fulton
- Erika Paris, North Fulton
- Deborah Thaxton, North Fulton
- Robert L. Hammond, Jr., Teresa A. Kochinsky-Bell, Aldredge
- Johnny J. Gyorke, Aldredge
- Asia Carter, Aldredge
- Dallin T. Randolph, Aldredge
- Jacqueline Henry-Rainford
- Vivian Moore, REACH
- Rachel Leon, North Fulton

Victoria Wynn, Women's Health. Retiring with 29 years and 7 months with the State- 21 years of which she spent in Fulton County.

## TEEN SUMMIT 2007- SEEING YOUR FUTURE THROUGH YOUR EYES ACT NOW, REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, JULY 13TH



On July 18, 2007 the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness Adolescent Health and Youth Development Program will host **Teen Summit 2007**. **Vision: Seeing your future through your eyes.** This one -day interactive youth conference will focus on addressing the risky behaviors exhibited by youth that include: unintentional injury and violence,

alcohol and other drug use, tobacco use, dietary behavior, physical inactivity, sexual behavior, as well as positive youth development and the importance of setting and achieving goals. We want to emphasize the importance of teens having a positive vision of themselves, which will lead to a positive vision for their future.

We have some exciting speakers, informative workshops and edutainment scheduled throughout the day. This event is **free** and is open to all Fulton County teens between the ages of 10 -19. The Teen Summit will be held between the hours of 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Each agency should provide 1 chaperone for every 10 students.

To register your youth or parents for this action-packed conference, contact:

Helen Morgan  
Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness  
265 Boulevard Ave, NE, 4th Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30312  
(404) 730 -1648

## REACH FOR WELLNESS COMMUNITY FAMILY FUN REUNION

The Community Family Fun Reunion will be in August. The place will be Phoenix III Park on Georgia Ave. The proposed date and time is August 18, 2007 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The goal is to bring all the communities involved with REACH together for enrichment and entertainment while serving as a vehicle to educate the community about health disparities, cardiovascular disease prevention and stroke prevention. Health vendors, school system, community based organizations and businesses will be invited.



West Nile Virus information booth at the Summerhill Neighborhood Survey on June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

## PRESENTING OUR PUBLIC HEALTH LIAISON



The offices of Epidemiology and Emergency Preparedness are pleased to welcome the new Public Health Liaison, Monica Ponder, to the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness staff. The role of the Public Health Liaison (PHL) is to build strategic relationships with medical, business, academic and other community entities in District 3-2 to improve infectious disease reporting and prevention, promote overall preparedness planning, market FCDHW resources, and educate various entities about public health's role in disaster response and recovery. The PHL is here not only as a community resource but also as an internal liaison since the mission of infectious disease reporting and emergency preparedness crosses many divisions within the health department. She is also available to provide SENDSS training to medical providers and staff that are interested in using this essential reporting tool. If you have needs relevant to building community partnerships within the aforementioned capacity, please do not hesitate to contact our district PHL. **Mrs. Ponder can be reached at 404.730.1308 and via email at**

[monica.ponder@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:monica.ponder@fultoncountyga.gov). With many trainings and community outreach efforts planned for the future, the public health liaison will serve a vital role in strengthening the link between FCDHW resources and community and medical partners throughout the district.

## EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Sheila Cofer,  
Employee of the  
2nd Quarter  
2007.  
Communicable  
Diseases  
Prevention  
Branch, TB  
Division .  
Congratulations.

## SUMMER TRAVEL?

Contact one of the Fulton County  
Travel Clinics for your vaccines

**College Park Regional Health Center**  
1920 John Wesley Ave.  
College, GA 30337  
(404) 765-4155

**Center for Health & Rehabilitation**  
265 Blvd. SE  
Atlanta, GA 30312  
(404) 730-1613



**North Fulton Regional Health Center**  
3155 Royal Dr. Suite #125  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
(404) 332-1876

## HISTORY COLUMN- GRADY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Did you know that.....*Grady Memorial Hospital*, frequently referred to as Grady Hospital or simply Grady, is the largest [hospital](#) in the [state of Georgia](#), and is the [public hospital](#) for the city of [Atlanta](#). It is a [Level I trauma center](#). Grady is considered to be one of the premier public hospitals in the [Southern United States](#). It is named for [Henry W. Grady](#), an [Atlanta Constitution](#) journalist and later owner who became a major force in Georgia [politics](#), and [advocated](#) for a public city hospital. It is now the [flagship](#) of the Grady Health System.

It was first founded in 1890 (a decade after [Saint Joseph's Infirmary](#), Atlanta's first) and opened in 1892, as an outgrowth of the [Atlanta Benevolent Home](#). The original building (at 36 Butler Street) is now on the [National Register of Historic Places](#) and is known as [Georgia Hall](#), where the hospital's [human resources](#) staff now work. The second Grady Hospital at [Butler Hall](#) opened in 1912 and was for [whites](#) only, with [blacks](#) being [segregated](#) at the [Atlanta Medical College](#). The third hospital was at [Hirsch Hall](#), and the current location is its fourth. Since 1945 it has been run by the [Fulton/DeKalb Hospital Authority](#).

The current facility was also built as a [segregated](#) institution, with one section serving Whites (Wings A & B; facing the city) and another section serving African-Americans (Wings C & D; facing the opposite direction). Even though it is a single building and the two sides are connected by a hallway (Wing E), the facility was referred to in the plural ("The Gradys") during the years of segregation.



## MAKE IT A SAFE KIDS SUMMER!



## Preventing accidental injury.

**Five Top Summer Risk Areas For Kids**

**Swim Safe:** Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death among children ages 1 to 4, and the second leading cause of accidental death among children ages 1 to 14, in the United States.

**Wheel Safe:** Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle crashes. The single most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle crashes is a helmet. Bicycle helmets have been shown to reduce the risk of head injury by as much as 85 percent and the risk of brain injury by as much as 88 percent.

**Play Safe:** Falls are the leading cause of accidental injury among children. Nearly 40 percent of all nonfatal injuries to children are associated with falls. Because falls are associated with a child's curiosity and development of motor skills, children ages 10 and under are the greatest risk of fall-related death and injury. Toddlers are at risk of falling from windows, and older children tend to suffer falls from playground equipment.

**Walk Safe:** Pedestrian injury is the second leading cause of accidental death among children ages 5 to 14. Children are at high risk of pedestrian injuries because they are impulsive and have difficulty judging speed, spatial relations and distance.

**Ride Safe:** Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of accidental death among children ages 1-14 in the United States. Car seats reduce fatal injury by 71 percent for infants under 1 year old and by 54 percent for toddlers ages 1-4 in passenger cars. An estimated 1,700 children's lives were saved between 1996 and 2002 solely because they were riding in a back seat. Twenty-five percent of all crashes occur less than five minutes from the home.

For more information on Safe Kids go to [www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)

**To become a volunteer contact Carolyn Atwater Wooten at 404-730-1309**

**HEY MOM! IS THAT A BABY RUTH? FECAL ACCIDENTS IN POOLS**

It's summertime, the temperature is in the 90's, and it's too hot to even think about going outside of your house. But, there is relief! It's the swimming pool in your backyard, or the clubhouse at your apartment complex, or maybe the wonderful county facility at Welcome All Park which operates year round. Wherever you and your family decide to cool off for a little while, it should be fun and refreshing. So everybody gets into their bathing suits and heads for the pool. You arrive at the pool, walk along the deck up to the edge of the water, perhaps images running in your mind of being in the Olympics as you prepare to dive in. But, WAIT! Just as you are about to fling yourself into the azure blue heaven, you notice something in the water. It's floating. It has a dark brown color and has an odd shape. No, it's not the lifeguard. It is fecal matter! All of a sudden, you're wondering if you are looking into a swimming pool or a toilet.

Fecal accidents in swimming pools do happen with alarming frequency. What can you do to prevent fecal accidents in your pool? First, make sure you (especially children) use the toilet and wash their hands before swimming.

You should shower before entering the pool. Do not use the pool if you have had a gastrointestinal illness or diarrhea in the past two weeks. Do not change diapers at the pool or dip your baby's behind in

the water. Have young children wear swimsuit diapers that are tight-fitting and made for bathing. Do not wear street shoes on the pool deck. Do not allow pets in the pool or pool area.

If you see fecal matter in your pool, get out of the pool immediately and notify the pool operator. Anyone may call the Department of Health and Wellness's Environmental Health Services office, at 404-730-1301, and request a copy of "Recommendations for Reducing the Risk of E. Coli Transmission in a Swimming Pool". For pool owners and operators, Environmental Health offers "Recommended Procedures for Managing Fecal Accidents or Contamination with Vomitus in a Swimming Pool".

Have fun swimming!

## FULTON SENIORS TO BENEFIT FROM FARMER'S MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

### *Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness Participates in USDA Project*

Fulton County will operate an SFMNP demonstration project during along with the Fulton County Human Services Office of Aging, Atlanta Regional Commission and Hunger Coalition of Atlanta.

Through funding from The Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness, 800 eligible seniors will receive a season total of \$25.00 worth of vouchers (in \$5.00 denominations)

- Seniors can purchase fresh fruits and vegetables using their vouchers from July 13 – August 31
- Local Farmers, approved by the State, will bring their locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables to the designated senior locations to redeem senior vouchers (anyone can purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from farmers)
- Farmers will be at the center once a week
- A FCDHW Nutritionist will register 800 eligible seniors, on a first come basis, and issue vouchers for fresh fruits and vegetables
- At the end of the season, a survey will be given to each senior who participated in the demonstration project for their input

All data will be sent to the FCDHW for inclusion in the document for funding Eligibility

- 55 years old or older
- Live in Fulton County
- Registered at one of the senior centers in Fulton County
- Low income
- Registration for the SFMNP

### Locations

**Wednesdays:** 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Helene S. Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility -  
515 John Wesley Dobbs Ave.

**Thursdays:** 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
H.J.C. Bowden Senior Multipurpose Facility -  
2885 Church Street, East Point

**Fridays:** 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER IS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH

The Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) is responsible for developing and implementing plans to dispense the appropriate medication to citizens in the event of a bio-terrorist attack. OEP conducts emergency drills throughout the year to test readiness response. The Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Coordination Program provides emergency medical direction and quality assurance to the 911 Communications Center's emergency medical and first responder service. OEP also operates one volunteer program, the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

## PANDEMIC FLU STAFF TRAINING, MAY 31, 2007



## HEALTHLINE

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