Jefferson.

Thomas Jefferson University
Jefferson Digital Commons

School of Nursing Faculty Papers & Presentations

Jefferson School of Nursing

Winter 2011

Global to Local: APIC chapters build community awareness for IIPW in their communities

Janiene Torch Bohannon
APIC Associate Director of Communications

Mary Lou Manning
Thomas Jefferson University, MaryLou.Manning@jefferson.edu

Louise Hesse
APIC Southern Nevada Chapter

Patrice Fitzsimons
APIC Long Island Chapter

Linda Huddleston
APIC Greater Chattanooga Chapter

See next page for additional authors

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Follow this and additional works at: http://jdc.jefferson.edu/nursfp

Part of the Public Health and Community Nursing Commons

Recommended Citation

Bohannon, Janiene Torch; Manning, Mary Lou; Hesse, Louise; Fitzsimons, Patrice; Huddleston, Linda; Chapple, Colleen; Mikielski, Leanne; Doughty, Diana; Rassian, Ossama; Fathy, Maha; Fouad, Lamia; and Nasser, Mostafa Abdel, "Global to Local: APIC chapters build community awareness for IIPW in their communities" (2011). *School of Nursing Faculty Papers & Presentations.* Paper 51.
http://jdc.jefferson.edu/nursfp/51

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's Academic & Instructional Support & Resources Department (AISR). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in School of Nursing Faculty Papers & Presentations by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.

Authors
Janiene Torch Bohannon, Mary Lou Manning, Louise Hesse, Patrice Fitzsimons, Linda Huddleston, Colleen Chapple, Leanne Mikielski, Diana Doughty, Ossama Rassian, Maha Fathy, Lamia Fouad, and Mostafa Abdel Nasser

This news article is available at Jefferson Digital Commons: http://jdc.jefferson.edu/nursfp/51

INTERNATIONAL INFECTION PREVENTION WEEK

Global to local

APIC chapters build community awareness for IIPW in their communities.

BY JANIENE TORCH BOHANNON
APIC ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

APIC chapters are an integral part of accomplishing APIC's mission to spread knowledge and prevent infection. Without their dedication and passion at the local level, APIC would not be able to achieve all that it has within the educational arena. This year, APIC established the 2011 IIPW Chapter Grant Program to encourage greater chapter participation in International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) and to promote new and creative ideas for raising public awareness.

IIPW chapter grant proposals were judged on the following criteria: creativity and uniqueness of program idea; potential to educate and raise awareness about infection prevention; feasibility of project and budget; and organized approach to program execution. APIC was honored to award the following seven chapters with financial grants to host IIPW events: Chattanooga, Heart of New York, Northeastern Pennsylvania, Long Island, Philadelphia and Delaware Valley, Southern Nevada, and Egypt.

APIC honors the efforts of all chapter members who worked diligently to make these events a success, while simultaneously performing their full-time jobs as infection preventionists (IPs). Here, we share the stories of the 2011 chapter commemorations and how each provided a forum for showcasing the power of collaboration:

Philadelphia and Delaware Valley

By Mary Lou Manning, PhD, CRNP, CIC
President, APIC Philadelphia and Delaware Valley Chapter

Lights! Camera! Action! The APIC Philadelphia and Delaware Valley chapter hosted "Washing Hands is Fun," a unique, original, musical performance for Elwyn Davidson School students, teachers, and family members on October 21 in the school's gymnasium. Elwyn is recognized as a pioneer in developing groundbreaking programs for children and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Students and teachers entered the gym through a path of brightly colored balloons as APIC chapter members personally greeted them. Tom Brazell, Davidson School's principal, and Christine Young, MBA, MT, CIC, the chapter's past president, provided a warm welcome and introduced the musical. The importance of hand washing was quickly apparent as students were introduced to the germ blasting super heroes named Bubbles, Super Washer, and Super Sanitizer who sang and danced to get rid of pesky germs!

More than 75 children and 40 teachers and aids attended the performance, which taught children when and how to wash their hands through song, music, and theatrics. After the performance, Janiene Bohannon, APIC associate director of Communications, and I deemed all students "Super Washers." As students filed out through the balloon path, chapter members gave them hand-made bright purple Super Washer capes to display their hand washing knowledge. Teachers and aids received "infection prevention" tote bags with educational material to help protect the children from infection and illness.

The event was a huge success. Teachers continue to contact us to tell us how their classes thoroughly enjoyed themselves and how they intend to keep the message alive.

Our event was an amazing testament to team work, thanks to event coordinator Dee Porri, RN, BSN, CIC, chair of the chapter's Community Outreach Committee, and the more than 30 chapter members who generously volunteered their time and talents. The chapter plans to continue to use this musical performance as part of our community outreach hand hygiene initiatives.

Las Vegas – Southern Nevada

By Louise Hesse, RN, BSN, CIC
President-Elect, APIC Southern Nevada Chapter

APIC's Southern Nevada chapter in Las Vegas, Nevada, commemorated IIPW by hosting a symposium at the Southern Nevada Health District. The theme of our event was "Back to Basics – Your Resource for Infection Prevention." Fifty community members, students, and healthcare professionals attended. Lecture topics were selected based on the needs in our community. The goal was not only to educate, but to demonstrate the importance of APIC as a resource in our community and among our colleagues.

Upon arrival, attendees received gift bags with hand sanitizers and other APIC IIPW merchandise. This year's APIC hand hygiene videos were played for the audi-

ence in the auditorium until the program began. We recruited four new APIC members (by setting up a membership information table) and held a raffle with prizes.

The symposium launched as Lawrence Sands, DO, MPH, chief health officer for Clark County, delivered the welcome address. Subsequently following, the seven lectures offered something for everyone. Topics included: hand hygiene, immunizations, multi-drug resistant organisms in the healthcare setting, antibiotic stewardship, infection prevention in surgery centers and dialysis clinics, and emergency preparedness. Gail Harris, RN, MS, MA, CIC, delivered the compelling closing address. The lecture series showcased the knowledge and talent of our APIC membership. Attendees received handouts on the topics to take back to their respective facilities.

A local television media station covered the event and emphasized that the back-to-basics approach (e.g., hand hygiene) is the simplest, most effective way to prevent infection.

The event was a great success! Our chapter was honored to be able to present this symposium and look forward to hosting another event in 2012.

Long Island

By Patrice Fitzsimons, RN, CIC
Secretary, APIC Long Island Chapter

Hand hygiene, influenza immunization, and cough etiquette are mainstays of every infection prevention program. APIC Long Island commemorated IIPW through an art contest for school-aged children titled "Influenza prevention through immunization, hand hygiene, and cough etiquette," in order to capture staff and community attention. The posters were displayed at eight member facilities during IIPW.

A panel judged the posters based on artistic ability, originality, and ability to convey the theme. Each facility awarded a first prize of $150 and a second prize of $75. First prize winners at the local level were judged for the $250 grand prize at the chapter's November 2011 meeting.

A total of 340 submissions were received. Queens Hospital Center, an acute care hospital, received 206 posters submitted from Gateway Science High School. Forest Hills Hospital, a member of the North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System, received 60 posters from Forest Hills High School. Peninsula Hospital in Rockaway Queens partnered with Beach Channel High School for submissions. The school at the Queens Children Psychiatric Hospital also participated.

Huntington Hospital in Suffolk County opened the event to its Junior Volunteer program and received entries from several schools. St. Catherine of Siena Hospital in Smithtown continued the partnership with neighboring schools. South Oaks Hospital integrated art and science in their educational services for the adolescent psychiatric client. Maria Regina Residency, a long-term care facility in Brentwood, encouraged staff members' children to participate.

APIC planted the seed via the IIPW chapter grant and our chapter ultimately bared fruit. The children who participated learned the importance of influenza immunization. The adults

who saw the artwork became interested and engaged. The basics of hand hygiene, cough etiquette, and influenza prevention continue to permeate into the community – a message coming "from the mouths of babes."

Greater Chattanooga

By Linda Huddleston, RN, MSN
President, APIC Greater Chattanooga Chapter

In an effort to enhance patient safety in our community, the Greater Chattanooga chapter commemorated IIPW by presenting a conference titled "OSHA: Guidelines for Medical and Dental Offices," to educate physicians, dentists, and dental staff on infection prevention in the outpatient settings. Fifty-four healthcare professionals representing different levels of practice attended.

Sherry Hillis, MT, MPH, CIC, presented the first presentation titled "OSHA-Bloodborne Pathogen Standard," which highlighted the importance of this OSHA standard in outpatient settings. I presented the CDC publication of "Guide to Infection Prevention for Outpatient Settings: Minimum Expectation for Safe Care," which was released in May 2011. The following recommendations were emphasized: employ a dedicated infection preventionist or a regular point of contact; utilize safe injection practices; ensure respiratory hygiene etiquette; implement a risk assessment; launch infection prevention staff education; understand standard- and transmission-based precautions; and require hand hygiene compliance.

Cindy Winfrey, MSN, RN, CIC, then spoke about the environment as a source of infection. Her presentation helped the audience understand the differences between disinfection products, log reduction, and reading labels on disinfecting agents in outpatient settings.

Kathyrn Hitchcock, APIC program manager, also attended the conference. It was exceptional that APIC supported us in more ways than just one.

Northeastern Pennsylvania

By Colleen Chapple MS, MLS (ASCP) and Leanne Mikielski, MS, MLS (ASCP)
Event Co-Chairs, APIC Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter

APIC's Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter stressed the importance of community engagement and the importance of preventing the spread of infection through the "Strike Out Infections" bowling event on Sunday, October 16, 2011.

The event, which commemorated the 25th anniversary of IIPW, was open to all community members at Chacko's Family Bowling Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The successful event drew more than 150 bowlers of all ages. Each participant received two free games of bowling, a shoe rental, pizza, cupcakes, and drinks.

Our chapter members set up informational tables throughout the facility, which provided information about food safety, hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, proper antibiotic usage, and immunizations. Attendees had the opportunity to ask our chapter members questions and engage in dialogue about a wide range of infection prevention topics.

At the end of the fun-filled event, we gave away prizes, including giant microbes, T-shirts, cash, and gift cards. In addition, the Henry the Hand mascot attended the event to help educate participants about proper hand hygiene. The chapter also raffled off 13 gift baskets to participants and donated the proceeds to the local Red Cross to help with flood victims from our area.

Heart of New York

By Diana Doughty, RN, MBA, CIC, CPHQ
Conference Chairperson, HONY Chapter

The Heart of New York (HONY) chapter commemorated IIPW by hosting a symposium titled "Isolation Guidelines in Long-Term Care and Psychiatric Facilities" in Auburn, New York, at the Cayuga Community College. The symposium attracted 76 attendees from long-term care (LTC) and psychiatric facilities, as well as members of the Greater Buffalo and Rochester-Finger Lakes APIC chapters. In addition, Greg Poersch, APIC's vice president of Business Development, and John Wilson from 3M attended.

The symposium reviewed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s 2007 Isolation Guidelines and presented helpful information to help staff in LTC and psychiatric facilities make appropriate infection prevention decisions.

Russell Grogan, RN, from the New York State Department of Health Long-Term Care presented a session titled "Top Ten Infection Control Issues in LTC." Additional topics included: "Infectious Agents of Special Interest," "Transmission Risks/Fundamental Elements to Prevent Transmission of Infectious Agents" and "Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions." The Robert Michael Educational Institute sponsored Ben Lomaestro, MS, PharmD, of Albany Medical Center Hospital who presented "Reducing the Burden of Clostridium difficile Infection: From Initial Treatment to Recurrent Prevention." The final speaker, David Castaldo, director of Support Services at The Centers at St. Camillus, shared practices and lessons learned via his facility's environmental services program.

All attendees received a packet with presentation handouts and a CD-ROM with various tools and references such as the CDC's 2007 isolation precautions, APIC's elimination guidelines, articles, best practices, resource lists, patient and staff education materials, examples of policies, and surveillance tools.

Attendees expressed their thanks for this event because it addressed concerns in their unique practice settings. Thanks to the support from APIC and 3M, the event was very successful and leads the way for possible future symposiums.

Egypt

By Professor Ossama Rasslan
President, Egypt Chapter
Professor Maha Fathy
Event Coordinator, Egypt Chapter
Lamia Fouad
Secretary, Egypt Chapter
and
Mostafa Abdel Nasser
Event Moderator, Egypt Chapter

The Egypt chapter hosted a day-long IIPW event themed around hepatitis C virus (HCV), a widespread problem in Egypt. This is

the second year that our chapter has hosted an IIPW event. Our event this year was even better organized, and the social activities held before and after the main event earned us rave reviews. Our pre-event activities focused on HCV prevention education in schools, hospitals (to both healthcare personnel and patients), and the community (barbers).

More than 200 healthcare personnel from healthcare organizations across the region attended the event. Attendees represented various practice settings and levels.

The day kicked off with a symposium that focused on HCV awareness and outlined our pre-event activities. This was followed by an IIPW awareness run, which was a pleasant change and a lot of fun for the attendees; this is a relatively novel idea in Egypt, as far as medical activities go.

We then held interactive and fruitful roundtable discussions regarding the enforcement of safe injection practices, standard precautions, and post-exposure prophylaxis. The attendees were divided into six groups and discussed how the standards are applied in their facilities, reasons for their non-application, and action plans for managing the defects.

A quiz followed the roundtable discussions; this sparked attendees' attention, and awards were given to special achievers and quiz winners. Attendees were very impressed and delighted by the goodies APIC sent us.

We concluded the day with a networking lunch to mark another successful chapter event—one of many to follow.

Partners in prevention: Building awareness together

UNDER THE THEME of "infection prevention is everyone's business," the annual recognition of International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) allows APIC the opportunity to strengthen relationships with other organizations actively engaged in infection prevention. This helps to broaden the understanding that *everyone* – infection preventionists, nurses, physicians, healthcare administrators, policymakers, and consumers – must work together to protect patients. More than 30 associations and half of U.S. states have pledged their support for IIPW.

APIC's key IIPW partners – the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, the Association for the Healthcare Environment, the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, the Infusion Nurses Society and the National Patient Safety Foundation –assisted in providing educational webinars during the week of IIPW.

Through combined efforts with our partners and the support of IIPW Presenting Sponsor 3M Health Care, APIC was able to provide the IIPW webinar series, the Policy Summit, and the entire week of programing free to members and constituents of each partner association.

As partners in prevention, together we can expand the scope of IIPW by promoting professional excellence and preventing infections.

Key Partners

- Association for the Healthcare Environment
- Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
- Infusion Nurses Society
- National Patient Safety Foundation
- Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

Supporting Partners

- Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care
- American Society for Healthcare Engineering
- American Society for Microbiology
- American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses
- Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation
- Association for Vascular Access
- Australian Infection Control Association
- Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.
- CIMRO of Nebraska
- Clean Hands Coalition
- Community and Hospital Infection Control Association
- Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council
- HONOReform
- Infection Prevention Society
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- International Federation of Infection Control
- International Scientific Forum on Home Hygiene
- National Resource for Infection Control
- Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention
- Qsource
- Royal College of Nursing
- Society of Hospital Medicine
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- The Joint Commission

HAI State Coordinators

- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Connecticut
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Pennsylvania
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin