



# Elderberry Institute eNews

Volume 5, Issue 9

September 30, 2006

## Important Dates!

- **Oct. 2 - MnRAAA** - Data & Financial Reports
- **Oct. 3-6** - Age & Disability Odyssey, Minneapolis
- **Oct. 4 - CMCOA** -3rd Qtr. Data, Financial, Narrative & Outcomes
- **Oct. 4 - Red Cross Transportation** - 1st Qtr. Data
- **Oct. 4 - MAAA-MCCC** - 3rd Qtr. Data Export Files, Financial & Payment Request Form
- **Oct. 4 - VOA** - 3rd Qtr. Financial, Qtrly Services, Health Problems Report
- **Oct. 10 - CSG - SPICE** - Data for July, Aug, Sept.
- **Oct. 10 - CSG** - 1st Qtr. Financial
- **Oct. 10 - CDOE** - 1st Qtr. Financial & Data
- **Oct. 15 - MDH** - Data & Financial Reports
- **Oct. 25** - Quarterly Services Report (**ALL LAH/BNPs**)
- **Oct. 27** - Cost & Services Report (**ALL LAH/BNPs**)
- **Oct. 31** - Quarterly Financial Report (**31 Base Funded**)
- **Nov. 30** - DHS Semi-Annual Payment Request (**31 Base Funded**)

## Welcome to the Network!

- Eleni Messiou - CDCS Coordinator, *Elderberry*
- Dawna Tierney - Community Liaison, *Elderberry*
- Amy Mortensen - Program Director, *Grove City*
- Juanita Peterson - Volunteer Coordinator, *Foley*

## Farewell & Good Luck!

- Sandi Bentley - Program Director, *Middle River*
- Pat Crummy - Program Director, *Argyle*
- Joyce Lewison - Service Coordinator, *Granite Falls*
- Monica Ramirez-Beisang - Volunteer Coordinator, *Conway-Battle Creek*

## Elderberry Update:

### New EI Staff

We are pleased to announce that on Monday, September 25th the Elderberry office welcomed two new staff members. Dawna Tierney accepted the position of Community Liaison and Eleni Messiou has taken on the role of Consumer Directed Services Coordinator.

Dawna joins the network from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet where she worked as a grant writer. She was also responsible for public and private funding for free health clinics, transitional housing for abused women, English language training and eldercare programs.

Eleni was recently the temporary Service/Volunteer Coordinator at Longfellow-Seward Healthy Seniors while the permanent Coordinator was out on medical leave. Eleni comes to Elderberry with a Masters Degree in Public Health from the Humphrey Institute where she graduated in May of 2006.

## Network News: Legislative Initiative

Programs in Minnesota have received the 2007 legislative initiative. It calls for increased and new State funding for all currently operating LAH/BNPs, additional funding for a total of 11 new LAH/BNPs over the next two years, and restoration of

partial funding for Elderberry Institute. Our Legislative Action Plan calls for each local LAH/BNP to contact all of their local legislative candidates prior to the November 7, 2006 election and talk with them about the value of the LAH/BNP to the residents of their

district. One key step is to take them on a home visit to one of their constituents. As a result, whoever is elected is aware of the Program in their district and how they can help fulfill the legislative request. Let Elderberry Institute know about your progress.

## Program Profile: Conway-Battle Creek LAH/BNP

The Conway-Battle Creek LAH/BNP officially opened its doors in 1997 during a very appropriate time of year - the Christmas Season. The Program was first founded in 1996 when a group of community volunteers from the District I area in St. Paul realized that the population of elders was growing quickly and the need for LAH/BNP

services was greater than ever. The District I Community Planning Council backed this idea and along with community churches applied for a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Faith in Action grant. The grant was then awarded to the Program in 1997 in the amount of \$25,000.

The Program serves elders in the

District I Planning Council Area. Boundaries are the Mississippi River on the West, Minnehaha Avenue on the North and McKnight Road on the East. The current Director who will take the Program into its 10th year is Lynn Rabbitts.