

HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS NEWSLETTER

October, 1977

CONSUMER CANDIDATES VICTORIOUS IN HSA ELECTION

Thanks to all those who participated and voted in the September 29 election of the Champaign-Ford Subarea Advisory Council of the Health Systems Agency. The CCHCC was delighted with the turnout and results. In preparation for the election, we enlisted and endorsed consumer and provider candidates who have demonstrated concern and competence in promoting good health and improving local health care planning. Of the twelve contested seats, fully five of our endorsed candidates were elected and will now join the council. In addition, a CCHCC member introduced a resolution assuring election and representation to two candidates from Ford County, which had not been adequately represented in the past. Thus, CCHCC was instrumental in electing seven of twelve candidates to the local health planning board! We are proud to have stimulated such participation. An independent health consumer organization can make a difference.

HEALTH AND AGING FORUM HELD

The second in a series of educational forums on health issues was sponsored by the CCHCC on September 6. The focus was on "health and aging" and involved active discussion of nutrition, physical fitness, and mental health issues from a "senior" perspective. The forum was organized by Susan Roman of Telecare. More educational forums are now being planned. To participate, phone Margie Checkoway at 344-5727.

CCHCC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HELD

A CCHCC organizational and new member meeting was held at the Urbana Civic Center on September 20. Those in attendance vigorously voiced their priorities for local health planning. Three committees were formed to formulate action proposals and programs in areas of concern. A health information committee (Judy Yeager, 333-9897, Paul Wilson, Mike Doyle, Janet Patzer, Barry Checkoway) will develop a consumer handbook to local health services for those with developmental disabilities. A health educational forum committee (Margie Checkoway, 344-5727, Doug Arnold, George Bell, Shirley Moore) will develop forums for the coming year. A health planning committee (Mike Doyle, 344-8896, Joe Ahearn, Donna Stimpson, Henry Hadley, Henrietta DeBoer) will develop a program aimed at achieving more consumer involvement in local health planning. Each committee will report on its progress at the next CCHCC meeting.

CCHCC MEETING REMINDER

Attend the next meeting of the CCHCC at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, October 18, at the Urbana Civic Center (108 E. Water Street, Urbana). Major improvements in health will come only with the involvement of consumers. Come join the effort to improve health care to all residents of our area. All concerned health care consumers are urged to attend. For more information, phone 344-5727.

WHAT IS CCHCC?

The Champaign County Health Care Consumers is an organization of local citizens and health care providers concerned with improving health care delivery to all residents of Champaign County.

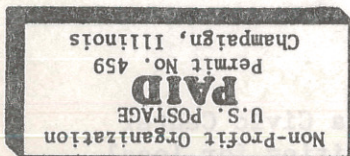
The aims are:

1. To be a catalyst of information exchange and cooperative action for those individual consumers and citizens wishing to address health issues, especially cost and accountability services.
2. To participate in health care planning by promoting consumer involvement in HSAs, monitoring health care activities, and providing back-up services to health consumers. The HSA is the local health planning body in Champaign County (see inside).
3. To join in efforts to modify behavior of the general consumer public regarding discriminating usage of the health care system and pursuit of personal lifestyles conducive to good health.

Among the initial activities is a series of education forums to increase consumer awareness on important health issues.

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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HEALTH
CARE CONSUMERS
Gemin House
73 East University
Champaign, IL 61820