It’s July! Time to Roll up Your Sleeves and Get Busy!

During July, NCDHR participated in several different events. With outreach efforts at their strongest, NCDHR has been reaching out and working hard to participate in several events. Keep your eyes on our website for more events in the upcoming months!

NCDHR Shows its Support at the Rochester Pride Festival

On Saturday, July 16, members of the NCDHR team participated in the Rochester Pride Parade. NCDHR’s staff and student interns marched with a banner that read “Working for a Healthy Deaf Community.” NCDHR marched to celebrate diversity within the Deaf Community through collaborative efforts. To read the full article, click here!

Bahrain Visits NCDHR

On Thursday, July 21, a group of guests from a small country in the Middle East (Bahrain) met with NCDHR. The visitors from Bahrain included four Deaf students, learning about health professions. Not fluent in American Sign Language or English, the communication among the visitors and NCDHR was interesting! Among the challenge of communication, there were also a couple of cultural differences between the Arabic Deaf Community and the American Deaf Community. To read the full article, click here!

Deaf Health Talks; Skin Cancer!

On a very hot July evening, Julia Velasquez gave a presentation to the Deaf Community at the Rochester Recreation Club for the Deaf. Julia is a member of the Deaf Health Community Committee (DHCC), a partner of NCDHR. Being in the middle of an unusually hot Rochester summer, Julia’s topic, “Skin Cancer”, drew a lot of attention. To read the full article, click here!

To see the PowerPoint presentation by Julia, click here! For the ASL videos of this lecture, click for Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, and the Q&A!

EYF at NTID: Deaf Health Panel Discussions

Thursday, July 21 and 28, NCDHR attended Explore Your Future (EYF) at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. At EYF, NCDHR organized two educational panels for individuals interested in entering into a health field. The first panel represented current students with hopes of entering into a variety of health fields. The second panel consisted of Deaf professionals already in the health field. To read the full article, click here!
Deaf Day at the CDR

Recently, NCDHR was asked to participate in the Center for Disability Rights (CDR) event, Deaf Day. The event took place on July 28, from 3-7pm. During the event, NCDHR provided flyers, posters, brochures, and postcards for attendees. Matt Starr and Scott Smith gave a presentation later on in the evening. To read the full article, click here!
To see the PowerPoint presentation by Matt and Scott, click here!

Latch-On America Bus Tour

On July 29, the Big Pink Bus arrived in Rochester, NY. What is this Big Pink Bus everyone is talking about? The nonprofit organization, Milk for Thought™, arranged the tour, traveling around the country in order to support, empower, and connect the breastfeeding community throughout the United States. Why is a Big Pink Bus traveling around the country?

Due to the recent Call to Action from the Surgeon General, and the First Lady’s Let’s Move Campaign, along with other celebrity endorsements, the Latch-On America Tour was triggered. The goal of this tour is to empower and connect the breastfeeding communities across the United States through a support network and national campaign. This tour also is aimed at supporting the 20 steps of the surgeon General’s Call to Action for Breastfeeding (released in January 2011), connecting new moms with lactating experts, learning about cutting-edge breastfeeding research and studies, increasing awareness for local breastfeeding resources, meeting interesting experts in breastfeeding, and learning and documenting the different unique breastfeeding cultures in each city.

This tour started on July 14, and reached Rochester on July 29. During the days events, camera crews interviewed local mothers, advocates, and experts. Among the people interviewed were Nancy Chin, a faculty member of the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine at the University of Rochester and an anthropologist that works with NCDHR, and Jessica Cuculick, a local Deaf mom, and a former Chair of Deaf Health Community Committee. Dr. Ann Dozier, a faculty member and colleague of Dr. Chin, whose research seeks to increase breastfeeding among low income women, was also interviewed as was Dr. Ruth Lawrence, a major breastfeeding pioneer and author of Breastfeeding: A Guide for the Medical Profession, now in its 7th edition.

Rochester was selected to be one of the stops for the Latch-On America Tour because of its long history of cutting-edge research on breastfeeding. Inside the new Saunders Research Building, different community, research groups, and organizations displayed their work about breastfeeding promotion and support. Many of these groups are partners in the research being done at the University of Rochester Medical Center. The tour also had the opportunity to interview a pediatric surgeon who is studying breastmilk to help prevent a devastating condition that affects newborns, necrotizing enterocolitis.

The tour plans to continue on to 30 or more other cities, completing it’s 45 day journey on August 29. So far, the tour has raised much attention, and mothers, families professionals, and members of the public were engaged and supportive of the first time event. Keep an eye on your newspapers and televisions for future stops made by the Big Pink Bus. For more information on this event, click here!

NCDHR thanks the University of Rochester Medical Center, Dr. Ruth Lawrence, Dr. Ann Dozier and her NIH funded Community Partnership for Breastfeeding, and Milk for Thought™ for making this event possible.