



CHARTING PROGRESS

SAN ANTONIO MEDICAL FOUNDATION • *Founders and Directors of the South Texas Medical Center*

Foundation Hosts Annual Educational Luncheon

Sebelius Presents the Past and Future of Healthcare

Kathleen Sebelius, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, spoke at the March 8 annual educational luncheon sponsored by the San Antonio Medical Foundation as a service to the community. A leading voice on healthcare in America, Sebelius took a look at the U.S. healthcare system put in place during her term as secretary and since her time leading the reform effort at the national level.

“We have the best health care in the world for some people some of the time,” said Sebelius. “But we don’t focus on prevention and we don’t spread the assets around.”

Sebelius believes that the healthcare system already has changed significantly and that more transformation is on the way, change that she believes will benefit San Antonio’s healthcare and bioscience industry.

“San Antonio already has assets on the ground,” said Sebelius in pointing out the extent of the \$30 billion healthcare and bioscience industry in San Antonio. She particularly touted the importance of military medicine in the city and the potential for San Antonio to be part of future changes toward more diversity in the workforce.

Sebelius says the Affordable Health Care Act has been successful in adding 20 million people to the rolls of those with insurance. However, several states, including her home state of Kansas and Texas, did not join the Medicaid portion of the program.

“One million more people in Texas could have Medicaid,” said Sebelius. “That would bring \$15 million per day from the federal government. It’s an economic issue. It’s not about politics; it’s about healthcare.”

Because the system has evolved during the last six years, she believes it will continue to change. For the future, Sebelius says the U.S. needs more focus on prevention. She thinks doctors will be paid to keep people healthy.

Pointing to an advantage of the use of data, Sebelius said data will allow consumers to have a voice, a way to look at outcomes and value in making healthcare decisions.

With the growth of an aging population, a new set of needs has grown. People need training to work with older populations and more caregivers will be needed; research is needed to prevent chronic disease, with Alzheimer’s a particular concern.

From April 2009-June 2014, Sebelius served in President Barack Obama’s cabinet as Secretary of Health and Human Services. She led the President’s charge for passage of the Affordable Care Act, often called “Obamacare,” and launched reforms to the nation’s health delivery system.

Sebelius championed new public-private strategies to bring life-saving drugs and devices to market and to accelerate the microscope-to-marketplace pipeline for new cures. Her work also included overseeing development of a new food safety system and establishing a new regulatory authority over tobacco products.

When she served as governor of Kansas from 2003-2009, *Time* magazine named her one of America’s Top Five Governors and *Forbes* named her one of the 100 most powerful women in the world.



*Kathleen Sebelius
Former U.S.
Secretary of Health
and Human Services*

Healthy Kids Project Continues Focus on Young Students

The Healthy Kids Project, sponsored and created by the San Antonio Medical Foundation, KLRN (public television) and Gottalook Productions, has completed a milestone. The program, emphasizing information about good health for students in kindergarten – second grade, completed Phase II during the 2014-15 school year in the Edgewood Independent School District after a pilot project there the previous year.

More than 2,900 children and 154 educators in all 10 Edgewood elementary schools participated in the program. Results from the follow-up surveys found that 94 percent of the teachers participating said they would continue to teach the material and 96 percent said they would recommend the program.

The project uses a variety of techniques to create healthy eating habits and encourage exercise among young students with the long-term goal of reducing poor health in later life.

Based on the idea that habits established early in life continue into adulthood and that children influence their parents as they take home what they have learned in school,

the program was first developed a few years ago. To date, the Foundation and KLRN have invested more than \$1 million in developing, testing and conducting the pilot.

Louise Beldon, who chairs the Foundation’s Community Health and Education Committee which

initiated the project, summarizes the role and importance of the program through a personal story: At age 5, her daughter knew that smoking was bad for people so she confronted a stranger who was buying cigarettes to give him that message.

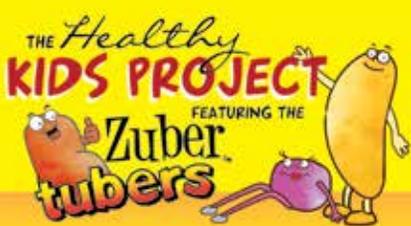
“It is our hope that children will sing the Zuber Tuber melodies at home and correct their parents to make healthy choices for the whole family,” said Beldon. “Our studies even show that the teachers who are teaching Healthy Kids concepts are personally making healthier choices. As we continue to reach out to the community, the sky is the limit as to how many lives we can change for the better!”

With an emphasis on presenting information in a variety of ways, the program uses videos, songs, movement and a cast of characters, the Zuber Tubers, to deliver messages that contrast healthy choices and attitudes with unhealthy behaviors. The Zuber Tubers characters engage the children with songs that students can learn quickly and that help them remember such ideas as drinking water.

Each lesson meets the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills standards in reading, math, science and social studies to enhance the core curriculum.

The Healthy Kids short videos can be viewed online at www.zubertubers.com and are available in both English and Spanish.

United Way and KLRN are now working together to take the Healthy Kids Project to the entire community. The program has been endorsed by Mayor Taylor and the Mayor’s Fitness Council.



Animated characters take the message of good health to young students in the Foundation-initiated Healthy Kids Project.



Clarity Child Guidance Center Adds Facilities

Clarity Child Guidance Center has added and remodeled facilities at its Medical Center campus at 8535 Tom Slick to provide mental health services even more effectively to children and adolescents ages 3-17.

The most recent change involves closing its Babcock Road building and moving all out-patient therapy services to its Tom Slick site.

“We think this makes us one of the best programs in the country,” said Fred Hines, CEO of Clarity Child Guidance Center, in explaining that all psychiatry residents will now provide both in-patient and out-patient services at the one location.

Out-patient services are provided in a 33,000 sq. ft. new building with three floors, one of which is available for future expansion, the first time Clarity has had space in reserve.

In October, Clarity expanded the number of acute-care beds to 66 with six additional observation beds where patients can be assessed during a crisis as an alternative to in-patient treatment. The beds for observation allow staff to adjust medications to get patients past a crisis.

Last month a 15,000 sq. ft. recreation therapy and day treatment opened. The recreation program includes a gymnasium with rock-climbing wall, plus areas for yoga, art and music therapy. The day treatment program provides services similar to in-patient care but allows kids to sleep at home and attend school. Day treatment can serve as a follow-up to in-patient care, or as an alternative to hospitalization.

Health Science Center Leads Around the Nation

Members of the faculty at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio hold a large number of leadership

positions in professional organizations around the U.S. and abroad. The extensive roster of nearly 200 Health Science Center faculty from all the schools serve in local, state, national and international leadership positions in their fields.

“The faculty of the UT Health Science Center are world-class professionals who are highly sought after for their expertise,” said William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP, president of the Health Science Center, in presenting the list. “They serve in many arenas, from the formation of policy to informing the public about key issues to advocating for increased National Institutes of Health funding on Capitol Hill.”

About 10 percent of the 1,730 full-time faculty hold professional leadership positions at any specific time. Currently, 72 serve in professional organizations as officers, 45 as chairs, vice chairs or co-chairs. Eighteen are past chairs, presidents or co-chairs and six are chair-elects or vice presidents.

Among those serving in organizations’ leadership roles are Ian M. Thompson Jr., M.D., professor of the Department of Urology and director of the Cancer Therapy and Research Center, who is president of the American Board of Urology. The board sets certification standards for the nation’s urologists.

Gregory Aune, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of the Department of Pediatrics’ Division of Hematology/Oncology, serves as a member of the National Cancer Institute Council of Research Advocates.

Eileen Breslin, Ph.D., RN, dean of the School of Nursing, served as president of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

These three are only a small sampling of the important contributions the faculty make to their professions and the public in addition to their Health Science Center responsibilities.

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The mission of the San Antonio Medical Foundation is to provide leadership and active stewardship of our land and other assets to improve health care, advance biomedical science and enhance community well-being.

The San Antonio Medical Foundation relies on contributions for its funding. Contributions are tax deductible, because the Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.