

**To: All Division 4 Kiwanis Club FASD
and Department of Health Unit Contacts.**

-- January 15, 2010 --

SUBJECT:-- Kiwanis Clubs of Division 4 and the FASD Program --

FASD is:-- “Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder”

This is an update on the FASD Program and how it could affect Kiwanis and the various Department of Health Units in your area during the year 2010 and future years. This update is based on a conversation I had with Kelly Vanderhoeven on Friday November 20, 2009. Kelly is my FASD Contact for Oxford, London-Middlesex and Elgin-St. Thomas Counties' Public Health Units.

This “recap” is intended to inform all of the Division 4 Kiwanis Clubs' incoming Presidents and FASD Contacts for the year 2009-2010.

As many of you may know, we have been involved in the FASD Program with the Dept. of Health Units in your area since October 12, 2007 and things have not worked out as well as expected. Early in 2008 Lt. Gov. James Garey asked me to assume the duties and responsibilities of the Division 4 Kiwanis Clubs FASD Chair.

We attempted to operate the FASD Programs through all of our Division 4 Kiwanis Clubs under one “umbrella” and co-ordinated out of Oxford County. This did not work very well.

The Oxford County Public Health Unit introduced the FASD program to the Kiwanis Divisional Council Meeting held in St. Thomas on February 23, 2009. This was your first real contact with the Health Units.

The identification of specific project needs has been limited. There has not been sufficient time to establish a good “liaison” between the Dept. of Health Units and our own Kiwanis Clubs. The FASD program is intended to educate people about the “use of alcohol by pregnant ladies or those anticipating pregnancy”. Our Kiwanis Clubs have not been able to commit to this program as originally anticipated.

A “Mocktail Madness Day” was planned for late August 2009. This day would have been held in Pt. Stanley along the beach area and merchant areas. It was cancelled due to insufficient support by local authorities and Kiwanis. We intended on handing out FASD pamphlets and serving non-alcoholic drinks, known as “Mocktails”.

We held our “Pregnant Pause Day” on September 9, 2009 at 9:00 AM. This was done in London, Ingersoll, Tillsonburg, Woodstock and I believe St. Thomas. Members of Kiwanis and the public took part in this “Public Awareness” event that had persons place a balloon under their shirts or sweaters to simulate a pregnancy.

On a whistle blast, all participants stopped right where they were and held that position for a minute or so. The on-looking public wondered what was going on. Write-ups and photos in the local newspapers told the story about the “Public Awareness” event and why it was done.

I attended a FASD Video- Conference in Woodstock on October 28, 2009. Fortunately, I was aware of most of the information presented at the video-conference. I enjoyed and learned more from the Question Period than I did from the Presentation itself. The questions asked and the answers given were very enlightening and informative. This led to my change of thinking regarding our Kiwanis relationship with the various Dept. of Health Units.

I have discussed our Kiwanis approach to the FASD program with various Kiwanis Clubs and the respective local Dept. of Health Units. Kelly Vanderhoeven has been my principal contact in the Oxford County Health Unit operating out of Woodstock, Ontario. She has been the co-ordinator for all of the other Health Units involved here.

In order to re-organize this project in a manner that is easier to work with, I suggested to Kelly that we need to break our units into "smaller chunks". Kelly thought this might work better. That is to say, we need to identify which Kiwanis Club would respond to which local Department of Health Unit.

It has been near to impossible for the Health Units to set a budget and to identify which Kiwanis Club could support their projects. It is anticipated that the local Health Units would identify a project and show a need for financial support on a more local and specific basis. They could request financial support from the local Kiwanis Club in their particular areas. In fact the Ingersoll Club donated \$1000.00 towards the Oxford County Pregnant Pause Day held in Ingersoll, Woodstock and Tillsonburg on September 9, 2009.

It is my understanding that if funding were requested on a local basis, the Kiwanis Clubs could decide to support or not support the request, based on each specific request and the availability of funds. If the Dept of Health Unit could request and show a need for funding, the Kiwanis Clubs could determine if they have sufficient funds in their budget to support the request.

This would eliminate my need to be directly involved in funding and would permit your Kiwanis Club to operate independently. The FASD Program would then operate on a local basis.

This letter has been emailed to all interested and involved parties.

Anonymity of Email Addresses has been broken here because all persons included are connected to each other through Kiwanis or the Health Units. It is important that all of you know who you are dealing with. No unrelated parties have received copies of this correspondence. I trust this is suitable to all.

By copy of this memo, I am asking the Department of Health Units to contact the Suggested Kiwanis Club directly for "Funding" and you can make your own decisions based on your Kiwanis Club's protocol.

The Following is a Summary of Health Units and Kiwanis Clubs by Geographic Location:-

a) **Oxford County Public Health**, 410 Butler St., Woodstock, On N4S 4N2
c/o Kelly Vanderhoeven RN BScN 519-539-9800 or 1-800-755-0394 Ext. 3467
email: kvanderhoeven@county.oxford.on.ca

--- Kiwanis Club of Ingersoll – Lloyd Finley
--- Kiwanis Club of Tillsonburg – Mike Coombes

b) **Middlesex-London Health Unit**, 50 King St. London, On N6A 5L7
c/o Bernadette Garrity RN PHN 519-663-5317 Ext 2272
email: bernadette.garrity@mlhu.on.ca

--- Kiwanis Club of Forest City London – Norine Martin
--- Kiwanis Middlesex (London) Inc. – Gord Flanagan
--- Kiwanis Club of North London – Jason Chanyl
--- Kiwanis Club of Thames Valley Fanshawe – Deb Lindsay

c) **Elgin-St. Thomas Public Health**, 99 Edward St. St. Thomas On. N5P 1Y8
c/o Laura Hoople RN BScN 519-631-9900 Ext 213 or 1-800-922-0096
email: lhoople@elginhealth.on.ca

--- Kiwanis Club of St. Thomas – Noon Hour -- Tom Hughes
--- Kiwanis Club of St. Thomas – Golden K Ontario Inc. (not a fundraiser club) – Rob Lusher
--- Kiwanis Club of St. Thomas – Lord Elgin – George Burge
--- Kiwanis Club of West Lorne – (has its own FASD program) – Bob Logan
--- Kiwanis Club of Rodney – David Hood

d) **Chatham-Kent Health Unit**. P.O. Box 1136, 435 Grand Avenue W. Chatham On. N7M 5L8
-- Pending liaison with Chatham-Kent Health Unit and Ridgetown Kiwanis Club

--- Kiwanis Club of Ridgetown --- Not active in FASD yet! – Debbie Button

It's been interesting and challenging working with you and your predecessors, in introducing the FASD Project. I trust we will remain in contact regarding the progress over the next few years. I will continue to keep you informed on any relevant correspondence I receive. I would also appreciate you keeping me informed of your FASD projects and your support.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at any time. I invite any comments that you may have.

Yours in Kiwanis Service,
Lloyd A Finley,

Lloyd Finley, Ingersoll Kiwanis, Div. 4 FASD Chair Telephone: 519-485-1785