



SWOPE HEALTH SERVICESSM

Member Swope Community Enterprises

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Swope Health Services Diabetes Program Receives Accreditation

KANSAS CITY, MO – Swope Health Services Diabetes Program was recently named an accredited diabetes program by the American Association of Diabetes Educators. This will allow Swope patients increased access to critical diabetes education services to improve self management of their condition. Trends show that diabetes education is moving out of the hospital and into the community where the patient is seeking care.

Currently Swope Health Services has two certified diabetes educators on staff. “Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States”, said Dr. William Pankey, Chief Medical Officer of Swope Health Services. “Diabetes prevention and knowing how to live with diabetes is key in helping our patients live a healthy lifestyle. This program will aid Swope Health Services in doing that,” he concludes.

Education of diabetes as a collaborative process through which people with or at risk for diabetes gain the knowledge and skills needed to modify behavior and successfully self-manage the disease and its related conditions. Leslie Banning, SHS Certified Diabetes Educator, says “a few symptoms that people should be aware of in determining their risk of Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes are frequent urination, unusual thirst, extreme hunger, or blurred vision. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, you should schedule an appointment with your provider.”

Swope Health Services is a federally qualified community health center that seeks to help develop self-empowered, healthy people in healthy communities by providing primary health care, outreach/homeless and behavioral health services throughout the Kansas City area. Annually, more than 40,000 patients are served at Swope’s 10 medical, dental, and behavioral health/residential treatment centers located throughout the greater metropolitan area including Kansas City, Independence, Kansas City North, South Kansas City and Wyandotte County, KS.

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