

The Library Creates.....

I recently had the privilege of participating in a program at HPL entitled *Engage for Health*. If it sounds familiar it is because we offered the same program in February of this year. This time, however, it was filmed for the purpose of sharing it with many more audiences across the state.

The program came about as a collaboration between the PA Library Association, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) and The Hospital and Health System Association of Pennsylvania (HAP). *Engage for Health* was so successful, earlier this year, that NNLM was approached by HAP to further this initiative and share with a larger community the principles of *Engage for Health* as well as the benefits of partnerships between public libraries and health care providers/hospitals.

Engage for Health focuses on providing people with guidance and resources to improve their communications with their doctors. “Questions are the Answer” is a running concept throughout the program. It includes opportunities for the audience to discuss issues that arise at a medical appointment and encourages them to be prepared for dialogue with their medical providers.

Once again, Dr. Dwight Davis, a cardiac specialist from the Hershey Medical Center was on hand to add his professional expertise to the program’s content. Lydia Collins from NNLM, provided excellent leadership along with Dr. Davis. In addition, local audience members were interviewed on camera individually to offer a perspective from the audience’s viewpoint.

The program was filmed and will be edited by a professional studio for presentation on the Sunday Fusion, a unique block of sponsored programming, every Sunday afternoon from 2-6 pm, on the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN). Sunday Fusion delivers sponsor content to over 3.3 million homes statewide, lending sponsors a unique opportunity to distribute their message across the state.

I especially want to thank our audience and presenters for their work and participation. This forum of local citizens is what makes our library so special. Through the efforts of not only the experts in the field, but you as community members, an educational product has been produced that will benefit many more people. This is what libraries have been and will continue to become. Our work is to disseminate as well as create valuable content for our library community.

