

October 1, 2009

At last, victory! The person in charge of the city contracts came to the clinic on Friday to deliver our Association of Community Health Educators' new two-year contract to me personally. I read it with so much satisfaction for finally, after more than 4 years of hoping, our contract includes our physical therapy program with our two physical therapists. The girls crowded into the administration room to see me sign it. We felt that this victory needed to be shared with you, our faithful partners.

Of course, there are also sacrifices. We were cut 20% in our administration allowance which will cause expense difficulties as we have 3 buildings to maintain. We also lost our social worker for this function was cut from the Family Health Program. Not only will this be a loss personally for she has worked with me for 10 years, but it also means that we will have to struggle to keep our important children's program going for she was the coordinator. We were also cut the few funds we had to support it. We lost our second dentist too which had been a recent and important addition to our program.

But we are so happy to finally, after seven months of anxiety to have our contract renewed. We know because of the cuts and the insecurity of health supplies, that we will have problems ahead of us, but we have met challenges before and succeeded.

Barb and Gus



Physical therapists, Barb and some of the workers

