

January 9, 2008

Overview

The 2007 Washington legislature passed E2SSB 5930 and appropriated \$10 million per year for public health improvement. The law called for a panel of experts to make recommendations related to the activities and services that qualify as core public health functions of statewide significance and performance measures specifically related to the new funds. The panels work and recommendations can be found at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hip/5930PM/product.htm> and <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hip/5930AS/product.htm>. The Secretary of Health has accepted the panel's recommendations.

The new state funds are to be used for new, additional or enhanced work to impact the following three performance measures, in rank order:

- **Performance Measure #1** – Increase the uptake of new and under-used child and adolescent vaccines.
- **Performance Measure #2** – Improve the timely, complete identification and standard, effective investigation of notifiable conditions per WAC 246-101.
- **Performance Measure #3** – Develop and implement effective community and health care system interventions to address obesity and its consequent burden of chronic disease. Interventions may target worksites, schools, communities, or primary medical care.

Additional work is currently underway: selecting more specific reporting measures using existing data sources; developing an inventory of the activities and services of each local health jurisdiction (LHJ); and developing initial performance measures for these activities and services. More information will be available at the web sites listed above as they are developed.

What to expect

- Each LHJ has received the distribution of 2008 funds per the formula in the law. Funds for 2009 will be distributed in January 2009.
- Each LHJ will receive a Consolidated Contract amendment from the Department of Health (DOH). The amendment will indicate that this is as a performance-based contract with the funds to be used to meet the three performance measures. A subsequent amendment will include more specific reporting information, including data source, specific reporting measures, and reporting timelines.

- Each LHJ is required to report expenditures in BARS. A new revenue code has been established for these funds: 334.04.99. Use existing service codes to show how these funds were spent. DOH is reviewing the codes to determine whether existing codes adequately reflect chronic disease or whether new code(s) should be added.
- Each LHJ is required to report data for each of the performance measures. More specific reporting measures are being developed and will be available soon.
- Each LHJ should review local data and level of effort related to each performance measure, identify areas for improvement, and develop and implement a work plan to make improvements in these measures in rank order as listed in the recommendations.
- DOH is working with representatives of local health to select more specific reporting measures from existing data sources; define baseline and reporting timelines and responsibilities; identify DOH activities to support improvement in the performance measures; and identify technical assistance DOH can provide to LHJs. A process is being developed to continue the work on activities and services, including developing an inventory of the activities and services of each local health jurisdiction (LHJ) and developing initial performance measures for these activities and services.

Contacts

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