WORKGROUP UPDATES

AGENDA FOR CHANGE WORKGROUP

Since the last Partnership meeting there has been considerable discussion about how to best implement the 2012 Agenda for Change Action Plan. The subgroups no longer plan on publishing implementation plans. Each has developed different recommendations for next steps and these are outlined under each strategic priority area below.

During the Partnership's June meeting a proposal will be made to adjourn the Agenda for Change Workgroup. The strategic priority areas are moving ahead with their efforts under the auspices of the Public Health Improvement Partnership.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- **Communicable Disease and Other Health Threats**

  This work will be lead by the Department of Health. The Department will engage local health jurisdictions on various workgroups to accomplish the action plan tasks. Jennifer Tebaldi will continue to be the accountability link back to the Partnership.

  Implementation steps are being refined and a mechanism is being developed to report progress to the Partnership. In addition, under consideration is how to bring together various performance measures (5930, Agenda for Change, State Health Improvement Plan) into one system.

- **Healthy Communities and Environments**

  This work will live on through the current Community Transformation (CTG) work, including the Prevention Alliance, and be part of the Transforming Washington Communities strategic plan under development by the Department of Health's Office of Healthy Communities. Allene Mares and Dennis Worsham from Public Health – Seattle & King County will continue to be the accountability links back to the Partnership.

  The objectives and strategies published in the 2012 Agenda for Change Action Summary remain unchanged and provide a vision for ongoing work at the state and local level. Specific actions related to these objectives and strategies are included in the Washington State Plan for Healthy Communities (a requirement of the Centers for Disease and Prevention) which will be published in August 2013.

- **Public Health Partnering with the Health Care System**

  The goal of the Public Health Partnering with Health Care Workgroup is to create actionable tools and other resources that will improve the ability of public health to strategically and effectively partner with the health care system to achieve the Triple Aim of improved patient experience/outcomes, improved population health, and reducing per capita costs.

  Over the next two years, the workgroup will focus on improving partnerships between clinical care and public health in the following areas to improve the health of the citizens of Washington State:

- Increase information about the health of local populations, and about the clinical resource capacity of the community
- Improve awareness across the public health community of emerging opportunities and requirements of health reform
- Advance the use of clinical preventive services and patient-centered health homes

FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The workgroup has been working with BERK & Associates to develop a cost model to estimate what it would cost to deliver the defined Foundational Public Health Services. At the group's most recent work session (May 30, 2013) the workgroup concluded that:

1. The model is flexible and able to provide information using different assumptions
2. The cost data that has been collected and used to extrapolate for statewide costs is solid and reasonable
3. The revenue data provides information on how these services are currently funded and allows us to set aside costs that currently have grant/contract or fee funding and identify the remaining costs that should be funded by state and local tax dollars
4. The model is a good tool for discussing, exploring and better understanding our current funding system and determining options, and recommendations for a model of predictable and appropriate levels of funding for the state and local public health system in Washington State

By the end of June, the contractor will provide the workgroup with a final report that includes an executive summary and technical information on the cost model, descriptive analysis of the current funding system, and policy issues highlighted by the model. Other communication tools like a PowerPoint presentation, FAQs, and a 1-page brochure will also be provided.

Phase II of the Foundational Public Health Services efforts will be launched this summer under the auspices of the Partnership.

Workgroup leadership and membership are yet to be determined. Please contact Barry Kling, Jennifer Tebaldi or Marie Flake if you are interested in participating.

PUBLIC HEALTH PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A new Public Health Performance and Accountability Workgroup will be formed under the auspices of the Partnership. Its purpose will be to develop and oversee a performance management and accountability system that measures the performance of the public health system in Washington State.

The new workgroup will have responsibility for the following tasks broken into two phases, the first over two years, and the second over the next three to five years:

Phase 1:

- Identify and count activities and services delivered across the public health system
- Develop local public health indicators to provide information about the health of local communities over time
- Develop and adopt performance measures that assess the performance of the public health system to do its work in terms of outputs and outcomes

Phase 2:

- Develop population based targets that answer, what does it mean for the state to be healthy?
- Modernize the capabilities to collect, analyze and share information (health informatics)

PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS

The Public Health Standards Workgroup met in late April. The group approved moving forward with a proposal to develop and test a system capable of measuring the extent to which local health agencies address the foundational public health services. A subgroup was formed to develop a crosswalk aligning the aspects of foundational public health services with specific national Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards, public health activities and services data, existing performance measures and local public health indicators with recognized targets such as Healthy People 2020. The subgroup has begun its work with the goal to have a final product to share with the PHIP in September.

The workgroup also is moving ahead with planning for the next standards review in 2015-2016. A subgroup will begin work later this year on process, mechanics and possible grants to execute the review independently from contractors.

June 2013

PUBLIC HEALTH
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND HEALTHIER WASHINGTON