

PHIP NEWS

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APR-JUN 2011

FROM THE AGENDA FOR CHANGE WORKGROUP CO-CHAIRS

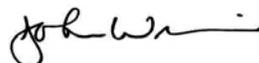
The newly established Agenda for Change Workgroup will move the *Agenda for Change* from a broad description of what the governmental public health system should focus on in the future into a more specific set of priorities. These priorities can guide the direction we set as a public health system in the next 2 to 5 years. In addition, a small set of specific action items will be identified and pursued immediately in order to most effectively improve the health of the public. The workgroup will build on the discussions, work and products of the Reshaping Governmental Public Health Workgroup (2010). This work included a review of health data, public health system assessment, forces of change and identification of themes.

Specific focus will be placed on:

- Communicable disease capacity and enhancement of the most effective and important elements of prevention, detection, and response (*Communicable Disease and Other Health Threats Subgroup*)
- Policy and system efforts fostering communities and environments that promote healthy starts, ongoing wellness and prevent illness and injury (*Healthy Communities and Environments Subgroup*)
- Effective and strategic partnering with the healthcare system to improve access to quality health care (*Partnering with the Healthcare System Subgroup*)

Through an iterative 18-month process (May 2010 – November 2012), the Agenda for Change Workgroup will guide the process, review the output of subgroups and determine what to integrate into a statewide action plan. It will also address cross-cutting issues, which could include items such as consideration of a long-term strategy for predictable levels of financing. The *Action Plan* will be published in the autumn of 2011 as a tool for soliciting more input in the process.

The action plan will form the basis for a new approach to the legislatively mandated biennial publication of the Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP). The *2012 PHIP* will draw on models for state health improvement plans and will address strengthening the governmental public health system with clear priorities for improving the public's health.



John Wiesman
Clark County Public Health



Gregg Grunenfelder
DOH/Deputy Secretary

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

The 2010 Public Health Activities and Services Inventory is now underway. The inventory will collect information from all 35 local health agencies and many DOH programs to answer the question ‘What does public health do in Washington State?’

This is the third inventory of activities and services conducted across the public health system in Washington State. The 2010 inventory retains most of the questions asked on the 2009 inventory, with the addition of a few questions where the data is already collected.

This year the Activities and Services data will be available to any user through a new interactive web-based System. This system will allow users to query all three years of activities and services data across the state over time.

For more information on the 2010 Public Health Activities and Services Inventory, visit www.doh.wa.gov/hip/initiative/phas/2010.htm

INDICATORS

The Public Health Indicators workgroup has identified four additional indicators to present this year:

- Air quality
- Falls among older adults
- Percent in poverty
- Youth depression

The solid waste indicator was dropped for lack of data.

The indicator data are currently being updated with a third set of data (2007 baseline, 2009, 2011). For this cycle data will be released in three sets as the underlying data are made available. The first set will be released in September and will coincide with the release of the 2010 Activities and Services data.

A new interactive web-based system is also being developed to allow user’s to query and display specific indicator information by local health jurisdictions over time.

For more information on the 2011 Public Health Indicators Update, visit

www.doh.wa.gov/hip/initiative/phi/2011.htm

STANDARDS

2011 LHJ Standards Review

The 2011 LHJ standards review is complete. All local health agencies have received their reports. All results, the system summary, exemplary practices and the evaluation results will be available online by the end of July.

Thirty-four local health agencies in Washington participated in the 2011 Standards Review.

- 10 were reviewed on the National set (and possibly pursuing accreditation),
- 4 on the WA-specific set, and
- 20 on the Basic set

Highlights of 2011 System Recommendations

- Develop and implement strategic plans
- Develop and implement community health improvement plans
- Implement of quality Improvement

Complete list of recommendations will be available in the system summary online at the end of July.

LHJ Quality Improvement Plans

To move forward with the Plan-Do-Study-Act cycle and to satisfy Local Capacity Development Funds requirements, by the end of September, each local health agency has been asked to submit a draft quality improvement plan based on the results from this year’s standards review.

For more information on the 2010-11 Standards Review, visit www.doh.wa.gov/hip/initiative/phs.htm