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Center for Excellence

OCT-DEC 2011

PUBLIC HEALTH
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON

AGENDA FOR CHANGE UPDATE

The three Agenda for Change subgroups have been hard at work drafting priorities and specific actions to most effectively improve the public's health. Those subgroups and their work are as follows:

- **Communicable Disease and Other Health Threats Subgroup**

The goal of this group is to provide guidance on best or standard practices around communicable disease threats. Its work is organized around the following questions:

- *Immunizations* - What are some best practices for assessing community immunizations practices?
- *Capacity for communicable disease surveillance and response* - What is our need to evaluate and streamline our communicable disease and surveillance and response system?
- *Informatics* - Is it time to plan for an updated and integrated communicable disease and data collection system?

- **Healthy Communities and Environments Subgroup**

The goal of this group is to provide guidance by focusing on policy and system efforts that foster healthy communities. Its work is organized around the following strategic areas:

- *Tobacco-free living*
- *Healthy eating*
- *Healthy and safe physical environments*
- *Healthy starts*

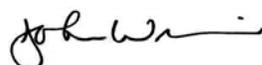
- **Public Health Partnering with the Health Care System Subgroup**

The goal of this group is to identify ways public health can improve access to care and preventive services by partnering more effectively with the healthcare system. Its work is organized around the question: *How shall public health partner more strategically with the health care system of the future to:*

- Collect and share community health data to increase knowledge of health issues prevalent in the community
- Compile data on community-wide or region-wide health care capacity
- Publish community needs assessments: partner with hospitals and other provider groups to develop community health needs assessments
- Monitor healthcare access issues
- Share information and educate on effective practices; examples include efforts to create regional consortia and efforts to develop clinically integrated health systems
- Create ongoing networks among providers, public health and hospitals to deliberate about problems and possible solutions

The Agenda for Change Workgroup will reconvene for its next meeting in early 2012 to review the subgroups' work and progress and begin looking at cross-cutting themes, gaps and funding.

For more detailed information on the Agenda for Change efforts, visit www.doh.wa.gov/phip/workgroup/a4c/a4c/a4c.htm



John Wiesman, Administrator
Clark County Public Health



Gregg Grunenfelder
DOH/Deputy Secretary

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

The Public Health Activities and Services Inventory workgroup has developed various tools for displaying inventory results.

- Public Health Activities & Services Inventory Database
<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/hip/PHIP/>
- 2010 Public Health Activities & Services Inventory Results Report (coming in early 2012)
- 2010 Public Health Activities & Services Inventory Highlights
www.doh.wa.gov/hip/doc/phas/10inv/highlights.pdf
- One-page template summing up how public health affects the health of your county
www.doh.wa.gov/hip/doc/phas/10inv/example.pdf
- Other examples of how public health activities & services data is used can be found under **Toolkit** at www.doh.wa.gov/hip/catalog/topic/phas.htm

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

INDICATORS

The 2011 Public Health Indicators Update is almost complete. The final round of updated indicators will be available in early 2012. Here is a list of some helpful indicator resources:

- Local Public Health Indicators website
www.doh.wa.gov/hip/products/phi/overview.htm
- To view highlights from the most recent updates, visit www.doh.wa.gov/hip/products/phi/doc/tools/highlights.pdf
- For examples of how local health agencies are using the data, visit www.doh.wa.gov/hip/catalog/topic/phi.htm

For more information on the Public Health Indicators, visit www.doh.wa.gov/hip/initiative/phi.htm

PHIP WEBSITE

The Department of Health is currently working on transitioning to a new website. As a result of this, beginning immediately through the end of March, there will be little to no updates posted to the PHIP website.

In addition, in April, the PHIP website will take on a new identity to better align with the Department of Health's web standards. We plan on communicating with the Partnership and its workgroups as well as all external communications exclusively via e-mail during this period.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time of transition!

www.doh.wa.gov/hip

STANDARDS

Currently the Public Health Standards Workgroup is on a brief between cycles hiatus. In the new year, the workgroup will focus on:

- Guiding the implementation of the 2011 system wide recommendations
- Restructuring the future standards review process to align with the Public Health Accreditation Board National Standards

The Centers for Excellence will support local and tribal agencies choosing to seek voluntary national accreditation.

For more information on the work of the Public Health Standards Workgroup, visit www.doh.wa.gov/hip/initiative/phs.htm

For more information on the Centers for Excellence, visit www.doh.wa.gov/PHIP/perfmgtcenters/index.htm