

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

SEPTEMBER 14, 2011 MEETING

PARTICIPANTS

<i>Co-Chairs</i>	Mary Selecky (DOH); Regina Delahunt (Whatcom)
<i>Staff</i>	Simana Dimitrova, Jane Lee, Marie Flake
<i>Members</i>	Debbie Riley (Mason); Dennis Worsham for David Fleming (Seattle-King); Janis Koch (Clark); Patrick O'Carroll (DHHS Region X); Allene Mares, Jennifer Tebaldi, Karen Jensen, Maryanne Guichard, Susan Ramsey (DOH)

MEETING NOTES

WELCOME

Mary Selecky

Mary Selecky welcomed participants to the 3rd quarter Partnership meeting for 2011.

INTRODUCTION OF REGINAL DELAHUNT, NEW PHIP CO-CHAIR

Mary Selecky

Mary introduced the new Co-Chair of the Public Health Improvement Partnership—Regina Delahunt, Director of the Whatcom County Health Department. Regina has more than 30 years of experience in the public health field, primarily in the area of environmental health and public health administration. She has served in a leadership capacity with the Whatcom County Health Department in Bellingham, Washington, for over 20 years and has been Public Health Director since 2000. Regina approaches public health from a broad-based community perspective. She plays an active role in bringing community partners together to address public health needs. She serves on many local and regional boards and tackles health issues such as health care access, domestic violence, mental health, and homelessness. She's also active in community emergency planning efforts, and the establishment of the Whatcom County Medical Reserve Corps. Regina received her Bachelor of Science with honors from State University of New York and her Master Degree in Biology from New Mexico State University.

STATE AND NATIONAL UPDATE

Mary Selecky

State

Later this week the fall state revenue forecast will be announced and the projections are not good. Retail sales are still very low. Toward the end of September, Department of Health will submit to the governor a 5% and 10% reduction packages proposal. A call will be held with local health agencies in early October to share what is known.

National

So far Washington State has faced over \$3 million in federal funds reduction. The near future doesn't look promising either as public health is part of discretionary funding.

Mary reminded all of the importance of the PHIP; that we work in partnership of state, local, federal and tribal members who comprise the public health system. PHIP is about the fundamental structure of public health in Washington. We'll have to do it differently with the diminishing and/or limited resources.

PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS REVIEW

Susan Ramsey

Susan summarized the 2010-2011 Public Health Standards Performance Review. All individual site results are available on the PHIP website. She then presented the three system-wide recommendations which the Public Health Standards Workgroup had put forth for the Partnership's consideration and approval for the next 3 to 5 years:

1. Develop and implement strategic plans
2. Develop and implement community health improvement plans
3. Implement quality improvement

For the future of the public health standards and performance reviews in Washington, the Public Health Standards Workgroup has made the following recommendations:

- Continuously adopt the most current PHAB standards in place of the Washington standards
- LHJ accreditation review results would apply to the WA review.
- Do not retain the 8 additional Washington specific measures which are not part of PHAB
- Adopt a second set of standards similar to the 2011 Basic set with a sunset clause
- Move to a five year cycle for consistency with PHAB
- Develop new options for conducting future reviews given the restrictions on the future use of consultants.



Regina shared the difficulty the workgroup had in reaching a decision on a Basic set for the next review. The compromise was adding a sunset clause to this agreement. Mary solicited input from all participants on these recommendations. A question was posed about the connection between LCDF and participation in standards review and how this connection relates to budget. Mary stated that the requirements for LCDF are currently under review. From federal and local health partnership members' perspective these seem to be the right choices, considering the current economic environment. Department of Health members also felt this was a good place to start since these recommendations support requirements for accreditation. All recommendations were unanimously approved by the Partnership

WORKGROUP UPDATES

- **Public Health Activities and Services**

Jane Lee (Staff) for Barry Kling and Gregg Grunenfelder, Public Health Activities and Services Workgroup Co-Chair

Jane gave a brief overview of the 2010 Public Health Activities and Services Inventory which was held this summer. The inventory collected information from all 35 local health agencies and multiple DOH programs to answer the question 'What does public health do in Washington State?' The 2010 inventory retained most of the questions asked in the 2009 inventory, with the addition of a few questions where the data is already collected. Later this fall the Activities and Services data from 2008 through the latest available data will be available to users through a new interactive web-based system. For more details, see [Workgroup Updates](#)

- **Public Health Indicators**

Jennifer Tebaldi, Public Health Indicators Workgroup Co-Chair

Jennifer talked about the 2011 Public Health Indicators update which is currently underway. The first set of data will be available in late September, with final data anticipated to roll out in November. In this year's update, the solid waste indicator was dropped due to lack of data. However, four new indicators were added to the list: air quality, falls among older adults, percent in poverty, and youth depression. The release of the first set of new indicators data will coincide with the release of the results from the 2010 Public Health Activities and Services Inventory. For more details, see [Workgroup Updates](#)

- **Public Health Standards**

Susan Ramsey, Public Health Standards Workgroup Co-Chair

2010-2011 STANDARDS REVIEW

The 2010-2011 Washington State Public Health Standards were aligned with the PHAB National Standards Beta Test Version. Because of this realignment, comparison between results of this cycle and past reviews is very limited.

Thirty-four out of the 35 local health agencies in Washington State plus the Department of Health participated in this cycle's review.

- 10 were reviewed on the National (PHAB) set of standards and possibly pursuing accreditation
- 4 were reviewed on the Washington-specific set of standards
- 20 on the Basic set of standards

MULTI-STATE LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

The close of the three year Multi-State Learning Collaborative grant funded by Robert Wood Johnson ended in August 2011. The overarching goals of the project focused on: increasing the application of quality improvement approaches and skills, promoting the use of public health standards, engaging in activities that advance voluntary national accreditation and improving the standards review processes by incorporating more evaluation methods.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE

Washington's Public Health Performance Management Centers for Excellence located at DOH, Spokane Regional Health District, and Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department have offered consulting and technical assistance services to all local health agencies and tribes. Thirteen of fifteen public trainings have been presented as of September 7, attended by over 450 students. Public training, tailored consulting, and quality improvement activities in local jurisdictions are slated for the next 12 months.

PHAB NATIONAL ACCREDITATION PROCESS

The PHAB National Standards Version 1.0 for state, local, territorial and tribal public health departments have been released this summer. Initial applications for a national accreditation began today – September 14, 2011. According to the 2011 post-Standards Review survey held by the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice, 18 local health agencies from our state plan on pursuing national accreditation within the next 2 years.

For more details, see [Workgroup Updates](#)

- **Agenda for Change**

Marie Flake, (Staff) for Gregg Grunenfelder and John Wiesman, Agenda for Change Workgroup Co-Chairs

The Agenda for Change Workgroup convened in May 2011. Since then workgroup co-chairs and staff have recruited for each of the subgroups:

- Communicable Disease and Other Health Threats
- Healthy Communities and Environments
- Partnering with the Healthcare System

The workgroup charters are finalized and sub group members invited. Each subgroup includes partners beyond the governmental public health system who have specific technical insight. The first meetings of the subgroups are underway and will focus on orienting members to the work and their charge, before delving into their first topics. For more details, see [Workgroup Updates](#)

NEXT STEPS

Allene Mares

Allene outlined some next steps:

- Transmit the public health standards recommendations statewide
- Complete recruitment of the local board of health partner representative

The next partnership meeting will be held on November 3, from 2 to 4 pm via iLinc.

Suggested topics: 2010 Public Health Activities and Services Inventory and the 2011 Public Health Indicators Update