



WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

JANUARY 9, 2019

Present: Barry Buchanan, Sterling Chick, Lindsey Karas, Rachel Lucy - Chair, Chi-Na Stoane

Absent: Barbara Juarez, Les Seelye,

Topic	Discussion/Outcome
Approve Notes From Last Meeting	Moved to adopt the November 2018, meeting summary as submitted. Approved (5 to 0)
Director's Report (DR)	Regina provided the following brief highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Assistant Director left the Health Department (WCHD) for a fellowship opportunity in Washington, DC. We are currently recruiting to fill the position; and will interview 3 applicants next week. • CHA Status - An email was sent to this group and other interested parties. It contains community descriptions which are broken out by school district, and provide data comparing the differences, similarities, and needs of each of these communities. • We received 19 applications to review for our Food System committee. Staff recommendations will go forward to the Executive for approval. • County Council passed the Health Protection For Immigrant Families Resolution put forth jointly by PHAB and WCHD. • Undetectable is Untransmissible (U=U) is a new campaign based on new research.
Election of Officers	The board moved to elect Chi-Na Stoane as Vice-Chair and re-elect Rachel Lucy as Chair for 2019. Approved (5,0)
Immigrant Health Resolution and Taskforce	<p>Appreciation was expressed for the work of Regina, the subcommittee, and all those backing the resolution to move it forward. PHAB requested guidance from WCHD on next steps to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify issues and clarify what the scope of the task force will be 2) Convene partners to get a comprehensive sense of the issue. 3) Create a system to identify and assist affected individuals. <p>This will entail a short term period of regular meetings to establish a system for long term solutions.</p> <p>We have a model we can use from setting up previous task forces. It is important to ensure compassionate approaches are built in to the process.</p> <p>Suggestions for membership include representation from each of the following: WCHD, PHAB, Community to Community, WAHA (Australia), SeaMar or Unity Care, Law Advocates or Hannah Stone, Bellingham School District (Isabel Meaker), policy expertise, families, rural community, food bank, homeless service center, faith community (Assumption/Unitarian), Western Washington University (blue group), interfaith coalition, labor council, Whatcom Community Foundation, United Way, Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (Moonwater).</p> <p>We will bring a planning group together to discuss who else needs to be</p>

	<p>involved. The group may hold stakeholder interviews or a larger convening. The Health Department will nominate and assign staff. Lindsay and Chi-Na will represent PHAB.</p>
<p>2019 Policy Agenda</p>	<p>As outlined in the packet, on December 14, 2018, the PHAB held a special policy agenda work session regarding for 2019. Areas of discussion included: Early Childhood Development, Housing with a focus on families with children, and Foundational Public Health Services funding.</p> <p>County Council Member Barry Buchanan is part of a task force that will bring forward a young adult resiliency resolution aimed at reducing incarceration for 18 - 24 year olds. It will be a joint resolution for City, County, school districts, etc. Two of the initiatives will be to build a system for better tracking of data and to create a point of intervention prior to arrest for those most at risk. Members of this task force came to Generations Forward to discuss and elevate early support.</p> <p>Our Health Board representative noted that he felt the PHAB policy agenda is on track and that the Health Board is interested in partnerships.</p> <p>PHAB members discussed options, windows of opportunity, best points of intervention, and preferences for a process moving forward. The consensus was to have three separate foci on the policy agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Flesh out the early childhood piece and build an agenda out of Generations Forward 2) Pull housing out as a separate effort, emphasizing that it is a stressor for families with children. The Human Services Manager reminded the group that: Housing dollars must prioritize the most vulnerable and chronically homeless 3) Foundational Public Health Services - address local gaps <p><u>Proposal for process:</u></p> <p>February Health Board - discuss Early Childhood Development and bring the FPHS model resolution forward. If the Health Board agrees to the proposed policy agenda, PHAB will continue to support as we convene partners, and invite other government jurisdictions to the table. Proposals for action will be developed with clear metrics and accountability and brought back to Health Board and City Council in spring.</p> <p>PHAB will not lead, but will offer support for a larger housing agenda to go forward.</p>
<p>Other/Public Comment</p>	<p>None.</p>

<p>What went well? What can we improve?</p>	<p>Appreciated clarification on the steps and the need to start with a resolution. More direction is great</p> <p>Grateful for Rachel's ability to summarize. Received answers on progress we've made.</p> <p>Good balance of participation and thoughtful contributions</p> <p>Amount of ground covered despite complexity. Great ideas.</p> <p>Concise and effective process of the meeting.</p> <p>It was the right amount of topics on the agenda for this meeting time and space.</p> <p>There was a reminder from WCHD staff of the FPHS pages in the meeting packet and appreciate expressed for being able to attend.</p> <p>Ensure families are at the table for the task force.</p> <p>Good to be here and to learn how to contribute.</p> <p>There is a learning curve to this work, but it is great to see outcomes</p> <p>Struck by the shift of going from presentations to engagement and the ease of dialogue on this team with the Health Department as stewards of Health in this community</p> <p>Still absorbing. Appreciated seeing the process and development</p> <p>The Health Department role will be crucial in tracking all the different initiatives. We need to collaborate as extensively as possible.</p> <p>These are difficult challenges requiring thoughtful methodical solutions.</p> <p>Can the Health Department recommend a webinar or training for policy development for PHAB members?</p>
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