



WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 9, 2018

Present: Lindsay Karas, Rachel Lucy - Chair, Shari Robinson, Chi-Na Stoane, Sue Sullivan - Vice-Chair, Ray Wolpov
Absent: Barry Buchanan, Barbara Juarez, Les Seelye
Guest: John Korsmo, Western Washington University

Topic	Discussion/Outcome
Approve Notes From Last Meeting	Motion to carry this item to the March 1, 2018, meeting. Approved (5,0)
Recap of last meeting and framing of this meeting	<p>At the Special PHAB meeting in December, we honed in on the Community Health Improvement framework and addressed partner and community engagement. Today, we will provide an update on progress since the last meeting.</p> <p>Members were asked to introduce themselves and share questions, connections, and insights since last meeting.</p>
Community Engagement in Community Health Improvement (CHI) Process: Following the Community Based Participatory Research model	<p>Staff Introduced John Korsmo, a consultant on contract for the Health Department (WCHD) on the blending of the County-Wide process with the process of engaging with our community in a different way. John is excited to be part of a process that is authentic in looking for community voice. He said he sees an immense opportunity to take advantage of the partnerships we have and noted that it is important to consider what resources the WCHD has to put into Opportunity Communities.</p> <p>John presented the attached PowerPoint on Participatory Action Research (PAR):</p> <p>Using PAR, WCHD can build real relationships across the County with diverse community members. It provides opportunities for WCHD staff to engage in different pockets of the community though their job title might not otherwise lead them to work directly on the Community Health Assessment (CHA.) Because it is an intentional drive for social justice within the process of building a healthy community, the ethical considerations are important to remember and address.</p> <p>Q: How do we address the trust issues? A: Have members within that community vouch for us. Be respectful when or if the community says, “no thanks.”</p> <p>This is not an entirely new approach for WCHD, but adds structure to what we have already been doing. It is a recognized form of research and model, and acts as a way to formalize our partnerships. Our current process defines the Opportunity Communities using geographical boundaries, so we must remember not all needs will fall within those boundaries.</p>



	<p>The WCHD does not have capacity to be involved in every Opportunity Community but we can learn from those that are already happening.</p>
	<p>This process could be added as a toolkit for WCHD staff development, to bring methodology and structure to what we are already doing.</p> <p>Q: How can PHAB support WCHD in moving forward in this? A: Staff have appreciated being able to bring policy issues to PHAB where they feel heard and supported and have gained both traction and results.</p> <p>Q: How do we get the broader community voice? A: Prior to the next CHA being developed, we will create an ongoing process to collect data over longer periods of time.</p> <p>Q: How do we make sure we have all the information? A: The member checking aspect of this process helps us ensure we are staying on track and not leaving anyone out.</p>
<p>PHAB participation in CHI process</p>	<p>WCHD staff invited PHAB members to volunteer to be part of a core team which will meet for 90 minutes twice a month. In addition there will be independent work totaling up to about 6 hours per month. PHAB member participants will bring items, policy recommendations, progress, etc. back to the PHAB and back to the communities for input, feedback, and engagement.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that we've been talking about process for a while. The PHAB chair asked when PHAB members get to look at the data and qualitative work that has been done. There is interest in being pulled in in a very focused and intentional way. Staff responded that this core group would be the first to look at any of the information.</p> <p>Rachel committed to being the PHAB representative on the core team and Chi-Na will be her back up. This relates well to her current job and the connections she has.</p> <p>Staff noted that as people have openings in their schedule, they have a</p>

	<p>standing invitation to join the core team.</p> <p>We plan to have a multi-sector coalition which ideally would include a PHAB member.</p>
<p>Closing Next Steps</p>	<p>It was proposed that this be a regular agenda item at PHAB meetings.</p> <p>Core team staff will touch base with Rachel and Chi-Na about meeting schedule and communicate opportunities outside of the core group to all PHAB members</p> <p><u>Appreciation</u>: We are grateful to John for the perspectives presented and new ideas for us.</p>
<p>Quick overview of progress since Dec meeting</p>	<p>Status update since last session: WCHD staff met with all the last process leaders/partners to get their perspective on the last go around and invite ideas for future.</p> <p>Qualitative information continues to be coded and themed.</p> <p>The Status Assessment should be complete within the next couple of weeks. It will help point to what should be highlighted in the CHA.</p> <p>We are currently garnishing information on community initiatives and working on a report on the last CHIP.</p>