



WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

MARCH 7, 2019

Present: Barbara Juarez, Barry Buchanan, Sterling Chick, Lindsey Karas, Rachel Lucy - Chair, Les Seelye
Absent: Chi-Na Stoane - Vice Chair

Topic	Discussion/Outcome
Approve Notes From Last Meeting	Moved to adopt the January and February 2019, meeting summary as submitted. Approved (5 to 0) Barbara not present for the vote.
Director's Report (DR)	<p>The Health Officer noted that though high-risk adults were called out in the report as being screened and treated for Tuberculosis, we treat all ages.</p> <p>In Olympia, Health policy bills that have made it through house include recommended legislation for measles immunization and Tobacco 21.</p> <p>Lindsay provided an update on the Immigrant Health Task Force. The planning committee met and decided the first meeting, likely to be held on 3/19, will be a small stakeholder group of those most connected. The small group will discuss who to add in at what stage. PHAB recommended representation from school districts, Community to Community, and the broader community. PHAB members are asked to reach out to contacts. We are watching the City of Bellingham process through this issue. It will be important to have people with experience working on it.</p> <p><u>Strategic Plan follow-up and update</u> - The Health Director thanked PHAB members for the input at the February meeting. Managers reviewed this information along with input from staff. At our April PHAB meeting we hope to discuss how PHAB can support the Health Department (WCHD) in their Strategic Plan.</p>
Hotspots Roundtable	<p>PHAB Members were asked what they believe are the current Public Health opportunities in the community. Responses included:</p> <p>The homeless situation - warming center. County Council was very involved and plan to talk about creating a subcommittee on the housing task force which would plan for emergency shelter needs and triage capacity. Lummi Nation was proactive in setting up a cold shelter at the casino. They provided a room with activities and food. They plan included transportation, and checking on elders. They had really efficient set up and clean up. It is important to build relationships to share strengths and successes.</p> <p>Maternal Health/Pediatric Care - Marijuana use is increasing in pregnant women due in part to social media promoting it as an aid for morning sickness. Dr. Kelly, a pediatrician at St. Joseph Peace Health has a presentation on this topic.</p> <p>Neighborhood Safety - in relation to homeless individuals and theft</p> <p>Youth Vaping frequency and penetration of this for High School and Middle</p>

	<p>School age students is concerning. The Healthy Youth survey will be out next week and will provide recent data. We will follow the State's focus in on vaping.</p>
<p>Hotspots Roundtable continued</p>	<p>Youth Vaping - frequency and penetration of this for High School and Middle School age students is concerning. The Healthy Youth survey will be out next week and will provide recent data. We will follow the State's focus in on vaping.</p> <p>Private public partnership. There is land/space out by Bakerview. County Council could help with the cost of development with stipulations that the developer will agree to including increased affordability within the housing development.</p> <p>Immigration Support- there is a need for immediate solutions and for a legislative fix for down the line</p> <p>Immunization</p> <p>Diversity in mental health resources -When youth are identified as having issues, how can we help when families are not on board? Youth 13 and over can access services without parent's permission, but this still doesn't increase support in the home.</p> <p>We are ready to open a facility to deal with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders in Whatcom County, but it is challenging to staff it. There is a shortage of these workers and they are difficult to retain. A PHAB member suggested a private-public partnership dealing with recruitment (similar to a partnering with WAHA to draw general physicians to the community a few years ago). There was a question as to whether we can use Accountable Communities of Health (ACH) Medicaid transformation dollars?</p>
<p>PHAB Member Segment Representation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal Community Member/ Tribal Government Representation was added • Language regarding size of the board was added: No less than 9, but no more than 13 • PHAB members recommended including language to ensure there is a minimum of one member per category. • A geographic/rural component was suggested for #4. The consensus was that this is captured in the wording "broadly representative of the character of the county," "with populations served by the health department," and in the 6th board composition bullet which includes the words "Small City/Rural"

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The word “citizen” will be changed to “member” in #2 <p>A motion was made to incorporate revisions noted above into the document and bring the draft revised code to the Health Board. Approved (6,0)</p>
<p>Health Board Policy Agenda</p>	<p>We will start with the early childhood resolution, while keeping Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) and Housing items in play. Generations Forward is setting the vision and policy agenda to help frame the resolution, while PHAB is the support vehicle to bring this to the Health Board.</p> <p>Individuals from the City of Bellingham (COB), Whatcom County, and other community partners are working on a parallel process as they develop a resolution to reduce incarceration for 18-24 year olds. We want to coordinate, so we don’t duplicate efforts, and to ensure the language in the early childhood resolution aligns with the language in the incarceration prevention resolution. Next steps are around partnering with philanthropy to map assets/funding. It is important to maximize use of media and the press because when people know where the money is going, they are supportive.</p> <p>Meeting participants suggested these revisions to the early childhood resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the “early childhood” by adding “Whereas we see early childhood as prenatal to age 8.” • When using the statement “Science shows,” Be specific and refer to the organization or scientific body that has the data and information we are referring to. • Ensure alignment with the incarceration prevention resolution. It is good to duplicate information in terms of science. The two resolutions support each other. • The early childhood resolution could be stronger in built environment. Build for families so they are supported even though they may earn a little less. • The electronic dashboard item has a higher level of specificity than the others. Use a general statement such as, “Data and progress are regularly communicated to the Health Board.” <p>PHAB voted unanimously to incorporate these changes and move the early childhood resolution forward to the next Health Board meeting.</p> <p>We plan to invite families with children and have them speak during the public comment section at the meeting when this is introduced.</p> <p>We need to leverage the data from the Community Health Assessment and community opportunity sessions in our policy work.</p> <p>The COB Council and County Council are pulling together a subcommittee of the Housing Advisory Committee to coordinate a plan and have contracts in place for severe weather responses.</p> <p>Ideas for the Health Board</p> <p>Suggest invitations to a crossover meeting to work on broad scope issues of development and land use and to discuss ideas to help young families.</p>
<p>Timeline of Proposed PHAB Board Activity</p>	<p>Rachel distributed a draft timeline of proposed activity for the board. Members asked to add meeting times to the list, as well as a target to present the completed Early Childhood Action Plan. The Incarceration Prevention Resolution should go to WCHD Staff to review and then for presentation at</p>

	the April Health Board meeting if there is time.
Other/Public Comment	None.
What went well? What can we improve?	<p>Several attendees concurred that the agenda development is awesome with the right amount of items and materials for the time we have.</p> <p>“Hotspots” is a great idea and we should continue this</p> <p>There is dialogue where PHAB member participation is emphasized, but there is room for WCHD staff to jump in.</p> <p>We are making progress. Thanks for accepting crazy ideas.</p> <p>Love the mix of actionable steps, conversation, and hearing everyone’s point of view</p> <p>Great mix and discussion in such a limited time</p> <p>We are discussing some exciting topics and making progress.</p> <p>Thank you to the WCHD for preparation for these meetings, especially Astrid this time with the resolution.</p>