



Deschutes County Health Services

Public Health Advisory Board

MINUTES

June 22, 2011

12:00 – 1:30pm

Stan Owen, DCHS Building

Item	
Facilitator	Aylett Wright
Scribe	Lisa Michael
Board Secretary	Cindy Barnes
Next Meeting	July 27, 2011, 12:00-1:30pm, DCHS, Stan Owens Conf. Rm.

Agenda Items/Discussion/Motions

Topic and Lead	
1	<p>Approval of Minutes from May meeting – Aylett Wright</p> <p>Katrina made a motion to change section 8 of the May minutes from “Bend La Pine is one of four schools... to Oregon is one of four states”.... Dr. Pribnow motioned to approve the amended minutes with a second by Cindy Barnes. Unanimously approved by all.</p>
2	<p>Announcements – All</p> <p>Tom informed the Board that he needs to make some adjustments to the member matrix and will distribute copies for the next meeting. Tom also notified the Board that Jeff Emrick will be holding a Quality Improvement Program meeting on July 19th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>Heather Kaisner stated that she received a state mini grant for flu vaccination uptake from health care workers. She will update the Board when more information is available.</p> <p>Kate is asking the state for a core grant for the school based health centers to build staff development and teen advisory groups in the school system, particularly in Sisters and Redmond. She is also working on a “Safe Date” program that helps teens in making smart choices when it comes to dating.</p> <p>Scott announced that the Regional Health Authority has changed its name to Central Oregon Health Council and will be holding a meeting on July 12th at 1:00 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Hearing Room at 1300 NW Wall Street. The main topics of discussion will be project overviews and the current legislation on health care. Scott also stated that the new standards for accreditation will be available around July 1st and DCHS will be working on the framework and priorities through the Federal Health Reform.</p>

“To promote and protect the health and safety of our community.”

Public Health and the Aging Society – Panel Discussion led by Charles Frazier

Charles, acting as moderator, started off by introducing the panel. He briefly explained the demographics chart from the 2010 Census Bureau in regards to the increase in senior population both state and countywide. Senior population just in Deschutes County alone has grown +36.7% over the past decade, making Deschutes the fast growing county in the state. Polk County reported the second highest increase during the same timeframe with a total state growth change of +10.7%. As of 2010, Oregon and Deschutes County senior population equaled 533,533 and 23,491 respectively.

Kathy Drew addressed the Board first explaining the dire need for more behavioral health and developmental disabilities programs for seniors. She stated that a lot of family members are stepping in to help their elderly relatives and for those who don't have family around to help them, they are relying on volunteers or going without altogether. The cost of medical care is consistently increasing at a rapid pace, which diminishes the quality of life for those who cannot afford to pay for it. Seniors fight for their dignity and independence and many won't ask for help until they absolutely need to. Kathy explained that she is focusing on senior disabled programs and emergency preparedness. She stated that seniors need the most assistance in the event of a disaster or other medical emergency; therefore, medical information packets have been developed to post at home to help medical personnel in determining a patient's medical condition.

3 Pam Norr from COCOA (Central Oregon Council on Aging) informed the Board about their program and efforts for keeping seniors independent and in their homes as opposed to assisted living facilities. COCOA serves approximately 170,000 meals a years through meals on wheels and various dining facilities. They receive over 180,000 calls and 116,000 in home care calls yearly. They also help seniors keep in touch with family members and have developed programs such as teens helping seniors with modern technology like internet, cell phones, etc. At the same time, seniors help teens by teaching them skills they know like knitting, world war history, etc. COCOA is a non-profit organization that is state and federally funded. Because of major cutbacks, they are only serving a small portion of senior residents at the moment.

Tim Malone, a local Gero-Psychiatric Specialist, spoke to the Board about how those Baby Boomers, who don't have insurance when they turn 65, are driving up medical costs by fully utilizing the Medicare system. Deschutes County has been noted as one of the best places for geriatric care and assistance. Due to astronomical medical and assisted living costs, more families are taking care of their elderly relatives themselves. Tim stated that long term senior medical care expenses are typically three to five times more than those expenses incurred by younger generations, mainly due to Dementia and Alzheimer's, which are two of the most costly illnesses. Our health care system is in serious decline at a time when more of our population is aging and require the most health care. Tim spoke about suicide and reports show that older white males commit more suicides than any other generation in Oregon. As a matter of fact, the ratio of older adults is 1 suicide in every 1.7 attempts as opposed to 1 in 17 attempts for youth.

Q & A Discussion:

Dr. Rosenthal inquired about what studies have been conducted that could help local seniors. Tim replied that some studies are being conducted, but mainly on how much is being spent on geriatric care.

Dr. Pribnow questioned the availability of mental health programs for patients without insurance.

Scott raised the question about where we need to go with health reform. Do we need more coverage? Should we think about the role of Public Health and how we can help the senior population?

Heather stated that Brenda Johnson, who is a DCHS Health Educator and the head of the Living Well program, supports those who are living with chronic disease/pain, many of whom are seniors.

Kate announced that state and federal regulations have deterred certain client services, specifically for women and these agencies need to step up and assist local agencies through these roadblocks.

It was suggested that many of the items discussed here can also be addressed at the next combined meeting with BHAB.

Membership Recruitment update – Aylett Wright

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Tom handed out a list of potential candidates for the Board. The Board reviewed the list and members commented on candidates they know personally. Aylett will set up a meeting to review applications and start the interview process. The Board could possibly recruit all the applicants in order to have alternative members available when needed.

Emergency Preparedness Update – Mary Goodwin

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Mary spoke about the necessity for emergency preparedness and how emergency service agencies partner to coordinate efforts during times of crises. The Emergency Preparedness team continues to build and retain relationships with new collaborators and develop new training exercises with help from the Public Health Reserve Corp. For example, the Health Department recently completed a state funded ham radio equipment training course, from which employees of several local agencies attended. Mary also mentioned the Cascade Citizen Corp., which is a group of volunteers that assist police personnel with such things as emergency response, traffic control and minor law enforcement issues.

Studies show that a massive earthquake is predicted to hit the Oregon coastline sometime in our future. Widespread panic will place severe pressure on Central and Eastern Oregon counties due to the overwhelming flood of mass population from the coast to these areas, which in turn will require more shelters and supplies. Mass shelters will require medical screening and access for the disabled and elderly. FEMA sets up temporary medical centers for less acute patients when area hospitals are at full capacity.

6	<p>Electronic Health Record Update – Kacy Burgess for Cherstin Callon</p> <p>Casey informed the Board that the Health Department is in the process of collecting RFP’s (request for proposals) to update our electronic health record system. This process may take several months depending on how many are submitted; therefore, no implementation date has yet been set. Casey stated that a system that will document the current workflow, as well as the past several months to create a functionality list for our clinical providers will be essential in selecting the most appropriate software.</p>
7	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.</p>

Members present: Aylett Wright, Dr. Jock Pribnow, Cindy Barnes, Charles Frazier, Jane Dey, Katrina Wiest, Dr. Anthony Rosenthal, Dr. James Ritzenthaler, Eric Alexander

Staff Present: Scott Johnson, Tom Kuhn, Kate Moore, Heather Kaisner, Lisa Michael

Guests and guest speaker(s): Bethany Ward, Tim McCorey, Kathy Drew, Tim Malone, Pam Norr, Kacy Burgess, Mary Goodwin