

Public Health Improvement Steering Committee

February 3, 2011 Meeting Notes

Present: Jackie Brown, John Crosthwait, Karen DeLeeuw, Jillian Jacobellis, Bonnie Koehler, Jeff Kuhr, Mark Johnson, Jeff Lawrence, Chris Lindley, Mark Salley, Alyson Shupe, Jeff Stoll, Chris Urbina, Lisa VanRaemdonck, Ralph Wilmoth, Stacy Weinberg, Jeff Zayach

Staff present: Tsering Dorjee, Kathleen Matthews, Jill Hunsaker Ryan, Corrina Lucero, Ariadne Romano, Bryan Storey

Guests: Roz Bedell, Elaine Borton, Sarah Lampe, Bob O'Doherty

Absent: Tim Byers, Deb Crook, Lisa Miller, Gini Pingnot, Jim Rada, Karin McGowan, Martha Rudolph, Glenn Schlabs, Karen Trierweiler, Chris Wiant

Steering Committee Updates: CDPHE Executive Director, Dr. Chris Urbina, announced that Bonnie Koehler, Deputy Director of Delta Public Health, will be his new co-chair of the Public Health Improvement Steering Committee. Jeff Zayach, Director of Boulder County Public Health, will preside in absence of the two co-chairs. Jeff Kuhr, the new Director of Mesa County Health Department was introduced as a new member of the committee. The committee reviewed its charge and approved it for 2011. The group decided to try bi-monthly meetings, from noon-2pm, on usually the third Thursday of the month, so out of town members can stay over for the CALPHO meeting which is held on the third Friday of the month. Committee members were asked to hold meeting dates in between, in case they were needed. A meeting new schedule is provided below.

2011 Meeting Schedule

Bi-Monthly Regular Meetings	Place holder for sub-committees or PHISC meeting as needed
March 17 th , C1C/C1D, 2:00 – 5:00 PM	April 14 th , TBD, 12:00 – 2:00 PM
May 19 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM	June 16 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM
July 14 th , Sabin, 12:00 – 2:00 PM	August 18 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM
September 15 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM	October 20 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM
November 17 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM	December 15 th , C1C/C1D, 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Assessment and Planning Updates:

Capacity Assessment:

The Office of Planning and Partnerships and CALPHO have teamed up to create a Local Public Health Agency Capacity Assessment tool and protocol for on-site interviews. This process will supplement information already reported by LPHAs in the NACCHO Profile and their annual report to OPP. OPP and CALPHO staff will visit each local public health agency to gather the information in-person through standard interview questions, starting late February through the summer months. An interview tool has been developed and will be pre-populated with the NACCHO and annual report data. In addition, other questions will be asked that have been adapted from CALBOH, PHAB, and other relevant sources. Broomfield will be the pilot site. Interviewers include Kathleen, Jill, Tsering and Corrina from OPP, and Lisa, Sarah and Amanda from CALPHO. Results will be used to understand public health services and capabilities statewide, before core services go to rule making under the Colorado Board of Health. This assessment will be considered the LPHA's 2010 Annual Report required by OPP. LPHAs may also use assessment results for their community health assessment and planning process.

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Sample interview questions were presented to the Committee. Dr. Johnson asked the group to keep in mind that this information could be made public, and in some cases, presented to local boards of health. Therefore, questions need to be worded with sensitivity to potential audiences.

Community Health Assessment and Planning:

OPP staff continues to work with the pilot sites on developing CHAPS (Colorado's Health Assessment and Planning System). Many sites are struggling with data interpretation and want more structure in terms of selecting priorities. Some have expressed an interest in working within an already established set of priorities like CDC's Six Winnable Battles. It was recommended to the Office that Colorado develop its own winnable battles and provide them as an option for LPHAs that don't currently have the assessment and planning capacity to be as comprehensive with their process.

The original plan was to have local public health improvement plans drive statewide priorities during the next statewide planning process beginning in 2013. A discussion ensued about whether state priorities should be developed earlier and by whom. Some members proposed a large summit, while other recommended it be done by the steering committee. Kathleen reported that OPP is developing a standardized priority setting process for CHAPS to be used at the local level, and maybe this could be piloted at the March Steering Committee meeting to develop potential priorities for Colorado that could then be vetted to a larger group. Another option might be to begin with CDC's six winnable battles and see how Colorado aligns. Unfortunately, Dr. Urbina and some key CDPHE division directors were gone for this part of the discussion, so they will need to be consulted on this important issue.

Public Health Act – legal analysis: There are several areas of the Act that have been interpreted differently by counties, creating an opportunity for precedent setting that could make funding formula development and other areas of Act implementation challenging, particularly as they relate to the definition of an LPHA. The office is considering convening a legal group to provide formal interpretation of the Act.

Grants Administration Task Force: Facilitator Roz Bedell reported that the two teams did not meet in January and will resume meeting in February.

OPP Position updates: The office welcomes Ariadne Romano, who is the new Program Assistant. Katy has gone back to nursing school and will continue to work for the Office part time. Steering Committee notices and other related correspondence will now come from Ariadne. Kate Lujan, RN, MPH, Field Epidemiologist from DCEED and stationed in Grand Junction, will assist the office with public health nursing consultation for the Western Slope. The Performance Improvement Manager interviews are in process. The Environmental Health Planner Liaison and Data Specialist positions will close early February. The Assessment and Planning Manager is being reposted to attract more applicants, although applicants from the first round will still be considered in the pool. This position announcement closes Feb 11.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 17th, 12:00-4:00 CDPHE, Bldg C, Room C1C/C1D
Please note the extended time allotted for the prioritization process