



BOARD OF HEALTH

The Thurston County Board of Health has responsibility and authority for public health in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County.

Minutes for August 12, 2014

1) 3:35 p.m. Call Board of Health Meeting to Order

In Attendance: Cathy Wolfe, Chair; Sandra Romero, Vice Chair; Karen Valenzuela, Commissioner; Don Sloma, Public Health & Social Services Department Director, Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Chair Wolfe called the meeting to order.

2) Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting

Clinical Care and Emergency Care Action Team to present

- a) Introductions** – Chair Wolfe opened the Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting and introduced the Council Members present. She then explained the Thurston Thrives Clinical Care and Emergency Care Action Team were to present by herself and Dr. Stephen Albrecht, Action Team Co-Leads. Chair Wolfe also shared there will be an additional Action Team for Law and Justice.

Advisory Council Members in attendance: Curt Andino; Mariella Cummings; Kevin Haughton, MD; Dennis Mahar; Cole Mason, MD; Lisa Smith; and Lon Wyrick.

Advisory Council Members Absent: Michael Cade; Barbara Clarkson; Nicole Hill; Raj Manhas; Jay Mason, MD; and Shelly Willis.

In attendance for Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS): Don Sloma, Director; Mary Ann O'Garro, Epidemiologist and Chris Hawkins, Healthy Environment and Action Team (HEAT) Supervisor/Thurston Thrives Coordinator.

Dr. Albrecht introduced himself and described his background. He then acknowledged Action Team members in attendance: Jacqueline Brown, Mariella Cummings, Winfried Danke, Dr. Kevin Haughton, Dr. Deborah Johnson, Dr. Cole Mason, Don Sloma and Dr. Rachel Wood. He also noted hospitals were represented and kept in the loop, Capitol Medical Center, Providence St. Peter Hospital and Group Health. Dr. Albrecht acknowledged facilitators Rick

Anderson and Patty Seib. Chair Wolfe noted the Team's work kept in the spirit of integrating behavioral health and medical health. She acknowledged members of the Cascade Pacific Alliance (CPA), formerly known as Regional Health Improvement Collaborative (RHIC), for their participation on the behavioral health side: Kristin West, Vicky Larkin, Commissioner Karen Valenzuela, Don Sloma, Mark Freedman, Deborah Allen, Jon Tunheim, Vicki Kirkpatrick, Dr. Rachel Wood, Steve Clark, Joan Brewster, Mary Goelz, Dennis Mahar, John Masterson, Patty Seib, Roy Walker and Winfried Danke.

Dr. Albrecht provided an introduction to the presentation describing the covered topics: medical care, behavioral health care and services; health behaviors and self-care; clinical preventive services as well as treatment; access to care; integration of care; and emergency and disaster response. He then described the Topics focused on: analysis of current conditions; and building strategy around primary goals/objectives: integration of care, educate and influence people on health choices, increase use of evidence-based treatment/services; and promote appropriate use of resources. Dr. Albrecht stated the Team's Vision: "More people live longer, healthier lives because they take care of themselves and received the right care at the right place at the right time".

b) Topic Area Definition and Health Implications, and Community Data/Assessment and Risks –

Mary Ann O'Garro, PHSS Epidemiologist, gave a presentation describing the connection between clinical care and health. She explained that to increase quality and years of healthy life, overall health status must improve. The lower people rate their health the higher their risk for death, disability and the need for health care services; physical and mental health can impact daily living and quality of life; the number of days per month that your physical or mental health is not good impacts quality of life; and the causes of death within a community can provide a view into the type of diseases and illnesses that are occurring. Ms. O'Garro shared 2012 statistics around adult health status and leading causes of death in Thurston County. She referenced a Data Snapshot Report which contains the most current local data of community health issues associated with Clinical Care that supports the work of the Thurston Thrives Clinical Care and Emergency Care Action Team. Ms. O'Garro provided clarification on her presentation and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Romero questioned why deaths by "natural causes" were not included in statistics. Dr. Albrecht stated the information was compiled from death certificates on which "natural causes" cannot be stated.

Dennis Mahar requested additional information in regards to Alzheimer's disease as a leading cause of death. Ms. O'Garro will research further and provide additional information. Mr. Mahar noted at 2:00 P.M. on August 18th the Alzheimer's Association of Western Washington will hold a Forum at the Olympia Senior Center.

Curt Andino – requested additional information regarding the "unhealthy days per month" statistic. Ms. O'Garro will research further and provide additional information.

c) Community Analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)

Dr. Albrecht and Commissioner Wolfe presented the Team's SWOT analysis explaining and describing: *Strengths* that promote community health, including energy and adaptability for

change; *Weaknesses* that challenge its ability to improve community health; *Opportunities* to improve community health, including energy and adaptability for change; and *Threats* by potential loss of services at the same time demand is increasing. The presentation summarized the SWOT as follows: Numerous strengths, especially energy and adaptability for change locally as well as larger system changes expanding access to care; experience with clinical preventive services such as Group Health and presence of Federally Qualified Health Centers; financial instability and underpayment limiting mental health and addiction treatment; fragmentation/lack of integration of health care; safety net strained, no coverage for immigrants; increase in behavioral health providers is major opportunity, also partnership of civilian & military providers and continued public health – private care collaboration; aging population and growth will increase demand at a time when funding is shrinking in public health and there is underpayment for key health care services

d) Board and Advisors Discussion of SWOT Analysis

The Board and Council Members asked questions and discussion ensued on the following:

Dr. Cole Mason – commented on strength of providers stepping up to volunteer services to agencies like Union Gospel services; he noted however that Union Gospel Services is closing.

Commissioner Wolfe – acknowledged a strength of changes in the mental health system such as “Justice not Jails”; NAMI, Affordable Care Act; Providence St. Peter Hospital; Community Mental Health Clinic; new mental health Triage Center opening soon; acknowledged CPA.

Dennis Mahar – commented on the weakness of financial issues for providers in private practices, chemical dependency workers, care managers, therapist, etc.

Lisa Smith – commented on an opportunity of economic development investment in our region around life sciences.

Lon Wyrick – expressed appreciation for presentation; requested clarification regarding Tri-Care being included as a threat; questioned information regarding military citizens use emergency services in Thurston County due to inability to travel to base.

Mariella Cummings – noted there is an ample supply of very talented and committed medical professionals in our community, but an inadequate number of psychiatrists.

Commissioner Romero – commented on a looming potential threat of dependence on State Legislature for funding programs.

Commissioner Valenzuela – expressed concern regarding the threat about funding of Medicaid.

Don Sloma – commented on the loss of inpatient detox substance abuse treatment capacity.

Dr. Cole Mason – commented on assistance provided by Children’s Hospital for children’s psychiatric issues; requested Medicaid clarification

Mr. Wyrick – requested additional Medicaid clarification

Mr. Andino – commented on Olympia Free Clinic funding

Commissioner Romero – questioned if Food was included in the Team’s studies; Dr. Albrecht stated it was not but acknowledged the connection with the Food Action Team’s work.

Mr. Mahar – noted CHOICE Regional Health Network Safety Net Providers meet once a month.

e) Recommended Strategy Map and Plan

Dr. Albrecht and Chair Wolfe presented the Team's Strategy Map and Recommendations beginning with the *Vision* Statement of: "More people live longer, healthier lives because they take care of themselves and received right care at the right place at the right time". Dr. Albrecht then described the maps five *Goals* focusing on the Goal of "Integration of care: medical, behavioral and public health" goal. He then reviewed the *Objectives* focusing on the following three: "Educate and influence people to make better health choices"; "Increase use of proven evidence based treatments and services; increase public's health awareness and self-care"; and "Promote appropriate resource utilization". Chair Wolfe and Dr. Albrecht then reviewed and described many of the Team's *Activities* to achieve the Team's Objectives; Goals and Vision.

f) Board and Advisors Discussion of Strategy Map

The Board, Advisory Council Members and Action Team Members commented on the Strategy Map as follows:

Lon Wyrick and Dr. Kevin Haughton – questioned if there has been an increase of medical student graduates.

Ms. Cummings – commented on Nursing versus Provider shortages; organize clinical care uncertainties; how to do it and how to pay for it.

Mr. Mahar – commented on twenty seven types of physicians; and the end of life issue

Ms. Smith – questioned if Team looked at what type of workers are needed now.

Ms. Gail Gosney (PAO) – commented on chemical dependency treatment and providers integration of certification.

Commissioner Wolfe – commented on the percentages of the County's discretionary funds that go to criminal justice.

g) Public Comments - none

h) Wrap Up Comments from Board, Advisors and Action Team – included in 2f.

i) Closing – Next Thurston Thrives Meeting

Don Sloma provided information on future Thurston Thrives meetings:

The next Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting will be held at the September 9th Board of Health 3:30 – 5:00 P.M. meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to provide a reprise and progress of the Thurston Thrives nine Action Teams' Strategy Maps presented by the Action Team Leads. In addition, the Food Action Team, lead by Robert Coit, will be given an opportunity to share their Team's Strategy map and progress as requested by Mr. Coit. Mr. Sloma stated no new things will be discussed. The meeting will consist of reminders of what has happened to date with the Thurston Thrives Initiative and where it is going in 2015, all in preparation for a November 5th Retreat.

On October 14th the Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Board of Health 3:30 – 5:00 meeting. This agenda will include the Council Members and Action Team

Leads, for additional discussion around where Thurston Thrives is now, what are the connections, redundancies or gaps in the strategy maps and where do we go from here.

November 5th is a Thurston Thrives retreat for Council Members. The retreat time frame is still to be determined, but Mr. Sloma requested everyone plan to attend at least until 3:00 P.M. Action Team Leads will be invited to attend.

Chair Wolfe noted the Law and Justice Action Team will present their Strategy Map to the Board of Health and Advisory Council after the November 5th Retreat.

j) Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting Concluded – Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Members May Excuse Themselves

Mr. Sloma noted for meeting details, additional information and comments about all Thurston Thrives meetings can be found at www.thurstonthrives.org.

3) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board of Health - None

4) Board of Health Members' Reports – due to length of meeting, no reports were given.

5) Director's Report –

Mr. Don Sloma reported on:

- ◆ Black Lake – blue green algae in Black Lake has produced enough toxins to prompt a swimming advisory for the lake that is now in effect. Commissioner Romero questioned if all Thurston County lakes are monitored. Mr. Sloma and Dr. Wood stated not all, but information about lake monitoring in the County can be obtained by contacting the PHSS Department Water Quality Staff or visiting our Website for links to the information.
- ◆ Burfoot Park beach - recent water quality testing for the Burfoot Park beach area shows that bacteria levels that were elevated earlier in July have now dropped, and the swimming advisory for the beach has been lifted.
- ◆ On-Site Sewage System Management Plan – the advisory committee completed their work on July 10th; the draft plan and recommendations will be presented to the Board of Health in September.
- ◆ The State Supreme Court has ruled the state wide practice of holding mental health patients at local hospitals unconstitutional; there is a scramble to find beds for these patients; there is discussion of Western State Hospital adding an additional 30 beds to help take up some of the slack.
- ◆ Mental Health Forum was held; 68 people in attendance; 5 topics were discussed including Clinical Care Action Team strategy map topics.

6) Health Officer's Report –

Dr. Rachel Wood reported on the following:

- ◆ Norovirus Outbreak at Summer Camp – A multi-week residential summer camp with about 300-400 campers per session and about 50 staff had a presumed Norovirus outbreak in July. Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) Disease Control and Prevention Program staff and Dr. Wood provided disease control guidance. In addition, the PHSS Food and Environmental Services staff inspected the kitchen and went over camp-wide cleaning/disinfection measures. Dr Wood instituted a number of control measures including isolation of sick campers, exclusion of individuals in sensitive positions like food service or health care until 48 hrs after all symptoms were gone. As of August 6th, the camp has had a small number of cases (28) amongst campers and staff but it appears that the control measures implemented by the camp were largely successful in keeping Norovirus from spreading throughout the camp population.
- ◆ Ebola update – there are no known cases in Thurston County; PHSS Disease Control and Prevention Program staff are following direction from CDC; they are also communicating closely with our local medical providers.

7) Adjournment – meeting was adjourned

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


CATHY WOLFE, Chair


SANDRA ROMERO, Vice Chair


KAREN VALENZUELA, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: October 14, 2014

Thurston Community Television (TCTV)

The Board of Health meetings are aired on TCTV each week on Sundays at 3:30 p.m., Mondays at 8:00 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m., and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. and at 5:00 p.m.