

Meeting Notes –January 13, 2011 9:30-11:30

**Location: 130 Nickerson St. Suite 105
Children’s Environmental Health Working Group
Collaborative on Health and the Environment- WA (CHE-WA)**

Our **mission** is to work collaboratively with diverse groups to eliminate children’s harmful environmental exposures in the Puget Sound region and beyond during their most critical developmental years: pre-conception to age 8.

This is a fragrance-free event.

Introductions

Welcome back and welcome new folks

Speaker next month:

Geoffrey Crofoot from the Washington State Environmental Health Association

Ongoing reminder: Interested in receiving updates on the current WA legislative session?

Contact group member, Holly Davies, at hdav461@ECY.WA.GOV and she will send you regular updates.

Discussion Items

Future directions for this working group:

- Gail gave a brief overview of our history as a working group. The group has met the goals of the originators of the idea for this group (Jeff Ketchel and Tracee Mayfield), which is to be a regional network, sharing resources and reducing duplication in children’s environmental health efforts.
- Short term needs – LHWMP staff need to share the opportunity to host monthly meetings. Our group meets ten times a year – LHWMP can host three of those meetings and if needed provide space for three other meetings.
 - LHWMP (Gail and Julia) will maintain the member list and e-mail messages and documents provided by the other hosts.
 - Duties involved in hosting:
 - Provide a room. This offers opportunity to move the meeting closer to a variety of members. For example, meeting in Kent is closer to members in Olympia.
 - Provide an agenda, with directions, *ten days before* the meeting to Gensler/Berg so they can e-mail to membership.
 - Facilitate the meeting.
 - Take and edit notes (ask for help from other members if need be). Send them to Gensler/Berg.
 - Speaker phone.
 - Conference bridge for up to eight people.
 - Secure a speaker on the topic of your choice as it relates to CEH. This is a good opportunity to invite speaker from the organization that the speaker represents. EPA, for example.
 - 2011 Calendar. Folks may need to switch months and are free to do so. The UW offers a space as a backup if needed (contact Katie Frevert). *Next steps* – Facilitators start contacting speakers for their month.

February	LHWMP – Speaker = Crofoot	Gail Gensler/Julia Berg
March	Sierra Club	Cara Dolan
April	People for Puget Sound	Heather Trim
May	Public Health Seattle & King County	Nicole Thomsen
June	American Lung Association	Aileen Gagney (via Aimee Boulanger)

September	LHW MP	Gail Gensler/Julia Berg
October	EPA	Margo Young
November	WADOH (in Kent)	Lauren Jenks
December	LHWMP	Gail Gensler/Julia Berg

- 2011 work – sub group projects
 - Determine way(s) to increase the capacity of medical providers about children's environmental health issues. Gail Gensler is facilitator.
 - Ideas for sub group: figure out a way to offer more education, find out what they already know, conduct a needs assessment, work with existing training i.e. PSR training. Meant to be collaborative, not replace other's work.
 - Those interested: Cherie, Nicole, Jeanne, Lauren, Margo, Kristi, Cynthia. Others to invite: Karen Bowman, NT can suggest some from County Doctor, MY could suggest someone from Tribal Clinics. Maybe someone from Bastyr.
 - Target audience: Family physicians, pediatrician, school nurses. OBGYN, Planned Parenthood
 - Medical providers tend to be research and data focused – maybe not “training” but discussion...
 - NT wonders if recent needs assessment (how prefer to receive information) has been done to know what WACAAP knows.
 - MY will look nationally to see if that has been done. GC said that re: lead –no one on West Coast thinking about lead, from his experience in Snohomish. GG wonders who else should help?
 - Host a mini-symposium bringing together people already working on children's environmental health issues. Margo Young is the facilitator. Two ideas:
 - At UW provide a forum for people doing research and working on CEH to meet and share idea. *Next steps*- talk with Kristi Ivick.
 - Lots of work going on in Yakima – ground water monitoring, reverse osmosis filters for filters, Karr on asthma and pesticides. At the 2011 Environmental Health conference in Vancouver we could do a session on CEH issues.
 - Work with [WSEHA](#). Geoffrey Crofoot, President of WSEHA is interested in providing platform for providing CEH to their members.
 - Their mission is to provide education to their members – local jurisdictional health departments.
 - In years past their conference has been in the spring, good time for conferences in EH.
 - Current format is one day conference; 4-8 hours contact time. Varying spots around the state. Idea is to have local, regionally priced continuing education around the state. No overnight stay required. Venues (free): Tumwater, Snohomish, Moses Lake, and Spokane.
 - They have a good marketing mechanism, website, and newsletter. Infrastructure is in place. They need new content.
 - Need to clarify if this would be one conference that travels or if it would be tailored to each site, or a combination of those ideas. AB likes idea of road show. GG wonders if non-WEEHA people can attend. There are non-member rates, says GC
 - *Next steps* -Convene a meeting with Lauren Jenks, Margo Young, Nicole Thomsen, Aimee Boulanger, Gail Gensler, Cara Dolan, and Geoffrey Crofoot.
 - Participate more (providing CEH info) in existing conferences. For example:
 - HT is on planning committee of Salish Sea conference in Vancouver BC in October. Maybe MY could steer people to submit abstracts.

- Margo mentioned that EPA (Juliann Barta) is working with Nancy Bernard to submit a proposal on children’s environmental health in schools to present at the [Healthy Schools Summit in May](#) at SeaTac.
 - HT – why doesn’t someone present at NAHMMA?
 - *Next steps* – send MY suggestions for conferences where we might participate.
 - Cara wants to know how all this education translates into changing policy.
 - Holly Davies from Ecology wants to put into law something about lead abatement. i.e. if a child has an elevated blood lead and lives in rental and public housing the landlord must remediate the problem. She gets the reaction that lead is not a problem – wants help showing lead is a problem. LJ says .34% of kids tested in WA have blood levels over 10.
 - Discussion - HD says every child gets tested twice for maple syrup urine disease and 16 children in whole nation have this. LJ says pediatricians are convinced by data. It’s not perfect, but the only data we have seems to show that the concern is low. The challenge is to interpret this differently. For our training, we can’t tell them things they have already heard and expect them to reach a different conclusion. CS reminds us that pediatricians have a limited amount of time to provide anticipatory guidance. HD wants to leapfrog over testing debate to get to “let’s just get of lead paint.”
 - *Next steps* - Cara will call meeting of a policy group on this topic: Heather Trim, Holly Davies, Russ Clausen, and Katie Frevert. Possibly also call Cynthia Sanderson, Steve Gilbert.
 - *Next steps* - Holly will notify group of toxics hearings happening in Olympia.
- Long Term issues to resolve:
 - Long term sponsor of working group has been CHE-WA with LHWMP as the primary leader; LHWMP management has some concerns about the amount of energy LHWMP staff are putting into the working group. The new idea of meeting rotation addresses some of these concerns.
 - NT is concerned about future and feels it is in our best interest as a group to have mechanism for long term continuation of this group. Maybe we need a change, such as a standalone governance structure with a president.
 - NT wants us to be proactive rather than reactive. LJ says for sustainability – share work and have projects.
 - MY suggests we write an “accomplishment report” at the end of the year to share with all of our management.
 - AB reminds us that CHE-WA has no structure or dollars – all volunteer. What are the alternatives? We could come in under an agency or a nonprofit organization; however, they might need to stay focused on their own advocacy mission. In contrast, CHE-WA provides a more neutral space for all our managers. Also, other organizations are all hurting for dollars.
 - AB thinks having the government lead on this is terrific; she calls it leadership.
 - JJ: our group has lot of strength and power as it is.
 - TM says that coming to this meeting is not really on his work plan, but he is supported for doing presentations. Maybe we could do a bi-annual daylong meeting, focus on local work – let local speakers come. CEU’s offered.
 - GG wondering if this is connected with WSEHA idea.
 - MY thinks this would help increase participation in our working group.
 - JB what about connecting with CHE-WA group.
 - MY what about combining some of these symposium ideas in October – maybe we replace our monthly meeting with attending the PH conference.
 - DW what about having an advocacy committee – maybe they could travel. DW suggests inviting legislators to whatever October event we produce.
 - *Next steps* - Gail with check with Galvin to see if the changes we have implemented will meet the concerns of LHWMP management.
 - *Next steps* – MY decides what to do with the working group October meeting, as she is the facilitator that month – have a meeting or attend the PH conference.
 - *Not resolved* – does anything more need to be done about this suggestion”

Burning updates:

- Cara Dolan – Coal Free Washington campaign – here because of children’s health impacts of burning coal. Work session on January 21 to hear about health effects of coal, a senator has called for experts. Cara will send website
- Margo Young – Notice of Funding Availability – grant opportunity. Get from CHE-WA bulletin. Two trainings she sent around. Press release actions on fluoride.
- Tracee Mayfield – bulk of his work developing classes targeting Somali childcare providers – has anyone done work with them? LJ – Minnesota has large Somali population. JJ suggests contacting Elizabeth Loudon, ECOSS.
- Nicole Thomsen – participating as stakeholder in City of Seattle Rental Housing Licensing and Inspection program and putting together a small working group to put together health standards in rental housing. LJ will participate.
- Jeanne Johnson – ECOSS Powerful Neighborhoods – installation of compact fluorescents. She will send more info. Reminding everyone that comment period on Duwamish River clean up ends tomorrow, also on-line link. ECOSS looking for other projects/opportunities.

Attendance (* indicates by phone)

Julia Berg (note taker)	LHWMP
Peter Blackburn	UW MPH practicum student
Aimee Boulanger*	CHE-WA
Renee Bouvion*	US Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health-Region 10
Russ Clausen	EPA
Geoffrey Crofoot*	Washington State Environmental Health Association
Holly Davies	Ecology
Cara Dolan	Coal Free Washington
Cherie Eichholz	Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility
Katie Frevert*	NIEHS Center for Ecogenetics & Environmental Health, University of Washington
Michelle Gaither	PPRC
Gail Gensler – (facilitator)	LHWMP
Laura Hutchinson*	Public Health- Seattle & King County
Kristy Ivicsek	PEHSU/Children’s Hospital
Lauren Jenks	WA Dept. of Health
Jeanne Johnson	ECOSS
Tracee Mayfield	Public Health- Seattle & King County
Carole Miller (speaker)	Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest
Donna Miscolta	King County Solid Waste
Barbara Ross	EPA-Region X, Lead Program
Cynthia Shurtleff	Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Nicole Thomsen	Public Health- Seattle & King County
Heather Trim	People for Puget Sound
Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food Change Your Life
Margo Young	EPA
Leena Der Yuen*	Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics