

**Children's Environmental Health Working Group
Collaborative on Health and the Environment- WA (CHE-WA)**

Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, October 11, 2012, 9:30-11:30

Location: Local Hazardous Waste Management Program office in Seattle

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.

Attendees: In person: Fran Solomon (Evergreen State College), Julia Singer (Local Hazardous Waste Management Program ...LHWMP), Dennis Weaver (Change Your Food-Change Your Life®), Gail Gensler (LHWMP), Barbara Ross (EPA-R10), Hamdi Mohamed (Housing and Urban Development), Gretchen Stewart (EPA R10), Margo Young (EPA-R10), Holly Davies (WA Department of Ecology), Rachel Koller, Steve Gilbert (Institute for Neurotoxicology & Neurological Disorders), Carolyn Gleason (Health Resource Services Administration), Aileen Gagney and Krysta Thornton (American Lung Association), Will Perry (Public Health-Seattle & King County) By phone: Tracy Bier (Physicians for Social Responsibility), Ana Rivero (volunteer- Washington Toxics Coalition), Celeste Davis (Indian Health Service-Division of Environmental Health Services), Aimee Boulanger (environmental health consultant)

Next meeting: November 8, 2012

Host: Holly Davies, WA State Dept. of Ecology

Location: DOE Northwest Regional Office, 3190 - 160th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

2013 Children's Environmental Health Forum update (Gail Gensler)

Discussed the proposed focus for this event: reproductive environmental health with a focus on preconception and prenatal. The group brainstormed a list of stakeholders to call to 1) help inform the look and feel of the event 2) consider participating on the planning committee. That list included the following (followed by the person who volunteered to make the call): National Children Study, PEHSU, Childhood Obesity Coalition (DW), , Washington Toxics Coalition,, Washington State Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System--CDC-funded, the Office of Women's Health (MY), Health Care Life Cycle, insurance companies, Corey Lipson-Colwell, Planned Parenthood, WA AAP, WA Department of Health (HD), youth-based organizations working on health, WithinReach, doulas, nurses, high school health clinics, Karen Bowman, Dr. Sheela Sathyanarayana, Dr. Herb Joiner-Bey (DW), Mary Margaret Thomas at the Nurses Working Group (FS), Kelly Edwards at the University of Washington ethics program (SG).

2013 host calendar set as follows:

January – PEHSU (Margo)

February – HUD (Hamdi)

March – LHWMP (Julia/Gail)

April – American Lung Association (Aileen)

May- WA Toxics Coalition/WA PSR/ INND (Aimee? Ana?) Topic: pesticides?

June - Change Your Food-Change Your Life® (Dennis)

July/August – no meeting

September – Aimee Boulanger, location TBD

October – EPA (Margo)

November- Ecology (Holly)

December – LHWMP (Julia/Gail)

Member updates

- Tracy Bier (Physicians for Social Responsibility) - Currently focusing on a major fundraiser for PSR on Oct. 25.
- Celeste Davis (Indian Health Service-Division of Environmental Health Services) - Starting on an asthma project in the Yakima area specific to tribes. Aileen Gagney suggested she contact Alfed Peters with the Yakama Nation.
- Ana Rivero (volunteer- Washington Toxics Coalition) - Offered to volunteer for the May 2013 meeting.
- Hamdi Mohamed (Housing and Urban Development) -Hosting a meeting of HUD with the Tacoma School Board and the Tacoma Housing Authority regarding vouchers to help reduce the rent of the families of certain elementary students so that they can remain in the area. Partnering with the Gates Foundation and others.
- Carolyn Gleason (Health Resource Services Administration) -Their 2013 programs are uncertain until the national elections resolve and they know their budget.
- Julia Singer (LHWMP) – Has connected with the UW's Program on the Environment, seeking to establish an intern program with them.
- Will Perry (Public Health-Seattle & King County) - Working on ongoing lead investigations. Increasingly interested in King County and Public Health emphasis on social equity in its programming. Interested in ways to partner more with communities to plan and create their programming together (for example, LHWMP's "promotora" work with the Chinese-speaking population in the Beacon Hill area of Seattle).
- Dennis Weaver (Change Your Food-Change Your Life®) - The Good Food Truck project is moving forward. Dennis is working with ~25 others on the King County Healthy Food and Fitness Initiative. As a result, Dennis and Michaela Davila (the executive director of the White Center Community Development Center) are now voting members of the Healthy King County Coalition, a "coalition of coalitions". This group meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month. Dennis suggests that CHE-WA connect with them and seek their support for the 2013 Forum, perhaps asking for their endorsement or asking for them to assist with publicity. Dennis passed out brochures about locating healthy food sources in King County.
- Gretchen Stewart (EPA R10) - In 2013, she and Margo Young are increasing their efforts about children's environmental health... Please send her items that she can post on a regional calendar. She will soon be working in Yakima on a project related to nitrates and groundwater. She will be in Alaska November 5-November 9.
- Aileen Gagney (American Lung Association) - The Master Home Environmentalist Program lost 3 full-time workers; however, she was still able to meet her 2012 objectives. She is still doing asthma outreach limited to the city of Seattle. Also working on landlord/tenant advocacy issues in the city of Seattle. Seattle passed an active landlord/tenant rental advocacy program that she is involved

with. Doing core Healthy Homes training with tribes. Their HEAL program is changing somewhat. She will start doing new volunteer trainings on Healthy Homes.

- Krysta Thornton (American Lung Association) - She is working with Aileen as an AmeriCorps. She is interested in contacts for establishing university internships.
- Barbara Ross (EPA-R10) - working on the tri-regional lead program out of Portland. Mentioned a new movie about lead poisoning that aired at the Sundance Film Festival Called "Mis-Lead". Produced by Tamara Rubin, who's a mom of a lead-poisoned child, the film contains many true and moving clips. Attended the conference of the State Contractors Licensing Agencies.
- Fran Solomon (Evergreen State College) - Giving two guest lectures on the impact of endocrine disruptor chemicals.... For the Seattle University graduate program in nursing and again in November in Japan.
- Steve Gilbert (INND) – The Pesticide Action Network of North America just produced a great report on the effects of pesticides on children (*A Generation in Jeopardy: How pesticides are undermining our children's health & intelligence*)....worth a look. See <http://www.panna.org/publication/generation-in-jeopardy> . Toxipedia's [Milestones in Toxicology poster](#) is now available in Chinese. [Particles on the Wall](#) is having a second edition release party on October 11.
- Holly Davies (WA Dept. of Ecology) – Ecology is pushing prevention as well as cleanup; however, they're getting push-back from the business community...may lead to a legislative fight. Her new focus is PCB's...PCB levels are too high across Puget Sound. Margo Young noted that Lexington, MA recently filed a lawsuit about PCB exposure in its schools.
- Rachel Koller recently joined the Loyal Heights Community Council (her daughter goes to school in that area) as an environmental health advisor. Her example of why this is important: they're soon to replace a boiler, requiring 2 weeks of demolition while school is going on, that will impact asbestos and lead paint. Aileen Gagney offered her services to help.
- Margo Young (EPA-Region10) – UW will do another research symposium in February...please send ideas. She has a children's environmental health calendar with tips....available to all at EPA's Facebook page. As part of EPA's big planning efforts on environmental justice, Region 10 has identified the south end of Tacoma (zip codes 98404 and 98405) as an area to reach out to on children's environmental health and environmental justice. Aileen gave her some contacts.

Speaker

Gail Gensler, Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County, gave a slideshow overview of our group...its history and accomplishments.