

CHE-WA Children's Environmental Health Working Group Meeting  
Meeting Notes  
February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Meeting location: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Seattle

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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.

**Attendee List:** Hamdi Mohamed (Housing and Urban Development) – host  
Nancy Beaudet (UW PEHSU), Nancy Bernard (WA Department of Health), Aimee Boulanger (Environmental consultant), Rad Cunningham (WA Department of Health), Holly Davies (WA Dept. of Ecology), Gail Gensler (Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County --LHWMP), Carolyn Gleason (Health Resources and Services Administration-HRSA), Rachel Koller (Healthy Home Focus), Kris Larson (ATSDR), Will Perry (Public Health-Seattle & King County – PH-S&KC), Ana Rivero (WA Toxics Coalition), Sharon Schoenfeld-Cohen (PH-S&KC), Gretchen Stewart (EPA R-10, Nicole Thomsen (PH-S&KC), Dennis Weaver (Change Your Food-Change Your Life®), Margo Young (EPA R-10) – note taker

And welcome to new attendees: Aphrodyi Antoine & Gary Gant from HRSA, Shawn Blackshear from Indian Health Service, and Jenevieve Fisher, from Educate for a Cure

### 1. Update on the Forum Planning 2013

- a. Finished stakeholder interviews
- b. Event will be held December 5, 2013
- c. Working title is "Healthy Environments for Healthy Babies: Preventing Harmful Environmental Exposures Before, During, and After Pregnancy"
- d. Abstract is final. Please use to seek funding.
- e. Grants: We applied for 2 grants from Ecology, however, funding for hazardous waste (State Toxics) is threatened by state budget. A bill put through the Senate Sub-committee made it out of committee; it reprioritizes what Ecology can spend their money on. Some legislators want to only spend that money on cleanup vs. education and prevention.

### 2. Member Updates

1. Nicole – There is a potential rule change to decrease the actionable blood lead level from 10 to 5 to match CDC's policy. Statewide committee has requested WA DOH to change to shorter reporting time for labs, and improve data tracking, like requesting that addresses be a required field. –WA DOH director, Mary Selek, is stepping down – some possible replacements = Patty Hayes (director of Community Health Services at PHSKC or John Weisman (Public Health director for Clark County).
2. Gail – Continues to work on program to get information to child care providers (Eco-Healthy Child Care<sup>®</sup> program). Sharon and Gail have done a few workshops and have site visits set up. \$500 for small business in King County who do something to reduce toxic exposures. -- Changing website, social media.
3. Ana – volunteers for WA Toxics Coalition. WTC is focusing on passing the Toxic Free Kids Act. Ana shared this story: At yesterday's Senate hearing, two of the industry representatives went up to testify against the bill (retail and chemical industry). One of the Senators called them back and told a personal story about their 4-

year old and asked if there are safer chemicals that can be added to products? The representative said, "There are thousands of chemicals out there, how do I know which one is safer?"

4. Jenevieve– Founder of Educate a Cure. She formerly worked as a Radiation Oncologist in childhood leukemia. EAC seeks a disease-free world through the lens of prevention. Focuses on adults and children, but wants to make a difference for kids who are not even born yet. Provides weekly wealth and wellness videos. Education + Prevention = a Cure.
5. Gretchen- brought an article about [lead exposures at Wade's Gun Shooting Range](#) in Bellevue. --Attended a webinar yesterday from CHE-AK on flame retardants.
6. Hamdi – HUD is rolling out some safe and healthy home partnership investments.
7. Rachel – working with Gillian Mittelstadt at Tribal Healthy Homes Northwest.
8. Nicole – Reporting out for a colleague, Tracee Mayfield. He is working on a community directed partnership, seeking a contract with a community group – looking for a distressed community to engage with on this project. Please share with communities.
9. Holly – New Dept. of Ecology Director is Maia D. Bellon. --Holly just finished writing Ecology's PAH Chemical Action Plan on wood smoke and combustion sources. Now she's working on one for PCBs. Session – Ecology fully supports the chlorinated TRIS flame retardant bill. The governor also supports the bill, so Ecology and Health are both pushing to pass the TRIS. Some discussion about new, [proposed CA standard](#) which requires flame retardant; this may change.
10. Will Perry – Encourages people to read article about lead exposure at Wade's gun range. --Toxic exposures through Ayurvedic medicine is coming up again....one sample was 13% lead, another was 11% mercury, and another was 17% copper.
11. Margo – Lisa Jackson's last day was today. ---Dr. Bruce Lanphear coming to EPA to present on lead on 2/25 – let Margo and Gretchen know if you want to come. Also let Margo know if you want to go to lunch on 2/26 after the UW Research Matters Conference.-- Margo heading to the NW Environmental health Conference in Portland, OR on March 15<sup>th</sup> – has table – anyone else going?
12. Nancy Bernard–OSPI School Disease Control Guidance was updated.
13. Nancy Beaudet – Reminder: UW Research Matters Conference, 2/26, 2013. FREE. HUB.

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### **3. Speaker(by phone): Karen Griego-West, HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control**

**Topic:** HUD's proposed certification process for communities that create effective partnerships and address multiple housing deficiencies in the areas of health, safety, energy efficiency and housing rehabilitation. See PDF for more details. A few points:

- a. HUD has a Safe and Healthy Homes Investment Partnership certification process (SHHIP). It certifies, recognizes, and rewards local governments and their NGO (+) partners that are already doing multi-area work on energy/health/housing/safety/rehabilitation. It gives a 'point score' to local governments doing this work that are applying for grants. Soon, HUD will have a one-page, one-stop-shop web page ([healthyhomes.hud.gov](http://healthyhomes.hud.gov))
- b. HUD hopes to pay to test some homes, and remediate some homes in order to prevent asthma cases resulting from problems with the homes.