



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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News Release

SBOH 08-12

For immediate release: September 23, 2008

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Health Disparities Council to discuss action plan priorities

Thursday, September 25, 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Great Wolf Lodge, 20500 Old Highway 99 SW, Grand Mound

The Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities will review and discuss the results of its second phase of prioritization. The council may make a decision about the five priorities that will be addressed in the first version of its action plan.

The council will also hear from a panel of experts on language access issues and receive briefings on academic achievement gap studies for students of color. The council will hear about the Department of Health's work to survey health care professionals to obtain information on workforce demographics and to develop a multicultural health training program for health professionals.

Other items on the agenda include a discussion on a charter for the council's advisory committees and a review and discussion on the draft progress report to the Governor and Legislature, which is scheduled to be released in January 2009.

The term "health disparities" describes the higher rates of disease, disability, and death among certain groups when compared to the general population. Serious disparities among racial and ethnic groups in Washington have been well documented.

The council meets Thursday, September 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Great Wolf Lodge, 20500 Old Highway 99 SW, Grand Mound. More information is available on the [Health Disparities Council Web site](#) (<http://healthequity.wa.gov>) or by calling the state Board of Health, 360-236-4104.

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