Environmental Exposures and Hazards Advisory Committee

Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities October 24, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Advisory Committee Members Present:

Millie Piazza, Chair

Stella Chao

Alice Park

Maria Gardipee

Richard Gelb

Steven Gilbert

Linn Gould

Candy Jackson

Lauren Jenks

Alice Park

James Rasmussen

Sheela Sathyanarayana

Tyrus Smith

Sharyne Thornton

Christina Gallegos

Staff Present:

Ned Therien

Action Items:

- Members will send suggestions for meeting locations to Christy.
- Christy will send out a poll for meeting dates.
- Members will send data/references to Christy for her to assemble into the DPSIR framework.

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Millie Piazza welcomed committee members and facilitated introductions.

2. Overview of the Health Disparities Council:

- Millie gave a presentation on the Council, its responsibilities and progress to date so members could understand their role in relation to the Council's.
- Committee members discussed the role of the Council's community relations liaison.
- Members were concerned about lack of capacity for health impact reviews.
- Members had some questions about the scope of the Council's new priorities.
- Millie directed members to more information on the Council's website.

3. Discuss Selections from the Literature and Resources:

- Millie reviewed a number of articles and reports with committee members.
- Committee members discussed definitions of terms (disparity, inequality, equity). Linn Gould recommended an article by Carter Pokris.
- Millie discussed recent federal initiatives, including EPA's 2014 Plan.
- Members expressed interest is seeing the legislation passed in California and Oregon.
 They suggested development of a Washington State EJ Plan as a good recommendation from this committee.
- Members commented on the possible need for more input from Eastern Washington.
- Members discussed the lack of good data and the possible need to explore national data. Lauren Jenks suggested advising the Washington Tracking Network on what health disparities indicators should be measured.

Phone: (360) 236-4110 • E-mail: wsboh@doh.wa.gov • Web: healthequity.wa.gov

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- Members suggested a focus on exposures that affect all members of the population the need to be proactive even in the absence of good data.
- Members discussed the need for a purpose statement.

4. Discuss Charter and Work Processes:

- Millie reviewed the advisory committee charter, highlighting committee roles and responsibilities and guiding principles. She also facilitated a discussion about future meetings and work processes.
- Members prefer meeting in Seattle, and suggested meeting earlier and finishing by 3 p.m. to beat traffic. Millie asked members to forward meeting space ideas to Christy. Christy would take a poll to determine best dates for future meetings.

5. Discuss Scope of Work:

- Millie facilitated a discussion of the committee's scope of work. She said she has always focused on exposures from certain geographic locations and she hoped the committee's focus could be different.
- Members suggested using the Council's action plan report as a template for their work.
- Members suggested areas of interest to them: asthma, lead, built environment, proximity to roads, indoor air quality, uranium exposure, healthy housing, farm worker issues, etc.
- Members discussed the need for determining if trends/data are available for Washington state and not to focus on areas where more research is needed.
- Committee members discussed the need to break out of silos.
- Richard Gelb suggested using the DPSIR framework to review the literature. Members
 discussed organizing the framework around different levels of exposure:
 food/consumables/personal care, housing, neighborhood, institutions/employment, and
 statewide.
- Members agreed to each send data and references to Christy for her to categorize into the DPSIR framework. The group could evaluate at the next meeting to determine if there are enough ideas to consider or more ideas need to be gathered. The material should focus on disproportionate impacts. Members suggested looking for issues that are interconnected.
- Members will determine the need for guest speakers after more discussion.

6. Meeting Summary:

• Millie summarized some of the key decisions made in the meeting and outlined follow-up activities for members and staff.