

HHSC Health Work Group Meeting Notes
May 17, 2010

Members Present: Carolyn Barnett BCS, George Blough ACS, Aly Burkhart M-BCPRB, Dana DeJarnett, WVUH East, Judy Jones HIC, Tom Kimm EPFC, Angela Powers RTPCC, Denise Ryan, BCHD, Rhonda Singer BSS, Karen Thompson PHHI, Teresa Warnick FRN

1. BITE Grant Update

A beautiful brochure was distributed that showed the list of events (first Saturdays, Friday movies in July) and healthy living ideas. Children's physical activities were linked to each event, with take away items for children.

2. Tobacco MiniGrant

There was an extended discussion of tobacco prevention and awareness activities. The Berkeley County Health Dept. has applied for a mini-grant. Their campaign will involved workshops on second hand smoke at the Health Dept., education boards at all departments on 2nd hand smoke, smoking during pregnancy, spitless tobacco, the quit-line and cessation efforts. There will be 4 advertising campaigns on prevention, cessation and awareness. If they don't get the mini-grant, there are limited funds available from the RTPCC for tobacco related activities.

It was suggested that we form a tobacco subcommittee, perhaps meeting after our monthly meeting. George Blough is interested in getting a group together. She also encourages Work Group members to join the CAN group, a grassroots organization that seeks legislative solutions to community problems related to tobacco. For more information click on www.acscan.org.

At our next meeting it might be helpful to clarify what commitment to the subcommittee requires and how much time activities and attendance would take.

3. Promise Neighborhood

A half day strategic planning workshop was held in which the vision and mission of the project were developed. A second half day workshop is scheduled and they are setting up focus groups with the neighborhood residents.

4. Mapp Project update

A list of characteristics of a health community were generated at the quarterly HHSC meeting. These will be combined with other lists from upcoming visioning meetings to create a vision of a healthy community. Visioning will also be done with the EGO group at Berkeley County Senior Center, the Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce, AARP and Healthier Jefferson.

The group is also busy compiling a health profile of the Eastern Panhandle using data from a variety of sources. Surveys, focus groups and interviews will also be used to compile the profile.

Rhonda suggested that we meet with the in-home caregivers at their next meeting, June 4 at 5 pm. We can poll them and invite them to do interviews with those for whom they are

caring to get their responses. Panhandle Home Health is willing to host something similar.

The Consumer Behavioral Health committee at the VA is interested in hosting a visioning meeting for the MAPP.

5. Legislative meeting

The HHSC Quarterly meeting in November will be an opportunity to invite state legislators and present our agenda to them. Each work group is asked to present a recommendation for legislation for our state legislators. In the 2010 session, there was a bill presented on requiring more nutrition information on restaurant menus which was not passed, Senate Bill 663. It can be viewed at

http://www.legis.state.wv.us/Bill_Status/bills_text.cfm?billdoc=SB663%20intr.htm&yr=2010&sesstype=RS&i=663. Would the Health Work Group like to recommend that our legislators push for passage of that bill?

6. Announcements

Martinsburg Parks and Recreation is preparing for summer camps. They are doing a pilot program at Eagle School funded by the United Way. It is modeled on the Fitness Challenge, the goal is to get every child to run a mile and improved times for those who can already run a mile. They'll be doing other activities such as bike riding safety and smoking prevention and education on safety, history, etc. ***They are looking for speakers, if anyone is interested in speaking, contact Aly Burkhart at aburkhart@mbcparks-rec.org***. There is a sliding scale fee per day per child, June 14- July 23, 9-3 pm. A similar program will run at War Memorial Park, Mill Creek Intermediate School and Potomac Intermediate School. The program was cut from 6 to 4 sites due to funding cuts. All schools feature at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day.

School health fairs are coming up at Mountain Ridge, Millcreek, Eagle School and Tuscarora Schools.

The Health Department in Jefferson County experienced a 50% reduction in funding from the County Commission in the next fiscal year, after experiencing 5% reductions in the previous 2 fiscal years. Nationwide, 80% of health departments experienced cutbacks this year. The struggle is to balance delivery of care vs. regulatory activities and education and awareness.

The Eastern Panhandle Free Clinic is one of 4 locations hosting public forums on The New Health Legislation. For information on these forums, contact 304-876-3158 or epspace@gmail.com

Wed. May 26, 7 PM	Robert Byrd Center, Shepherd U., Shepherdstown
Wed. May 26, 11 AM	Jefferson Co. Senior Center, Ranson
Thurs. May 27, 9 AM	Eastern Panhandle Free Clinic, Ranson
Thurs. May 27, 11 AM	Berkeley Co. Senior Center, Martinsburg

Regional Tobacco Prevention Coalition Coordinator, Angela Powers reported that Coalition money may be available for tobacco cessation, awareness, prevention programs that are not funded through mini-grants. Her role is expanding from technical support to coalition building and collaboration.

The Health Dept. and Wellness Center participated on a conference call with the PRC about Not-on-Tobacco Program, for teen tobacco cessation. It is moving from schools to

the community. They are pairing up counties to implement the program. They have a 5 year program for implementation.

The Health Department is working on the MAPP process and fundraising for breast and cervical cancer services. They are selling items, 30% of sales will go towards services for breast and cervical cancer prevention such as mammograms. Fundraising will go on for 6 months. To go to the online store, go to their website, bchealthdept.org. On the front page click on the link to Fight Like a Girl. She is happy to share this information with organizations at meetings, events, luncheons, etc. Contact her at Denise.M.Ryan@wv.gov.

The Cancer Action Network focus is going to be quarterly, they are seeking to build the grass roots education momentum before revisiting no-smoking legislation. George is available to meet with any group about joining CANS to fight for legislation.