

## Children's Environmental Health Working Group

### CHE-WA

October 14, 2010

The November meeting only has been rescheduled from the 11th to the 18th.

#### Upcoming speakers

November – Washington Environmental Biomonitoring Survey (WEBS) – Washington DOH, Denise LaFlamme

December - Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest - Carole Miller - VP of Education, Training and Org Effectiveness

#### Meeting

We welcomed a talk by Megan McJennett, Program Manager at Thrive by Five Washington. She introduced us to the fine work of [Thrive by Five](#), which works to improve the development of all children from birth to age 5 and their readiness to enter school.

#### Reports

1. Gail Gensler - There will be an Environmental Medicine and Detoxification Fall Clinical Conference at Bastyr University in Kenmore, Washington October 23-24. The event is hosted by the Washington Association of Naturopaths and Bastyr University.
2. Steve Gilbert – Announced a reception for the new Dean of the School of Public Health, Dr. Howard Frumkin. Frumkin was previously at the Centers for Disease Control, where he served as Director of the National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.
3. Meredith Eddy – ALA Pacific NW – The Master Home Environmentalist program lost their funding from City of Seattle. They are asking folks to write/call city council members. Budget finalized late November. Dozens of people get referred from around the County. In January there will be no one to answer these calls. About \$100,000 funds Aileen, PT supervisor and 3 AmeriCorps positions. Also training large numbers of MHE volunteers serving the County.
4. Jeanne Johnson- ECOSS – (started as an MHE, FYI) She announced Green Jobs project, which visited 2000 households this year.
5. Cynthia Shurtleff – WACAAP – Also on Board of Children's Campaign Fund, Children's PAC. They suggest voting for candidates who are pro-children's health, early learning, and foster kids. Go to [childrenscampaignfund.org](http://childrenscampaignfund.org) or get guide from [cdshurtleff@msn.com](mailto:cdshurtleff@msn.com)

6. Julia Berg – shared current status of *Protect Kids from Toxics* revision and CHILD Profile letter messages. The PKT revision is expected to be complete by late spring 2011. Several funders have been identified, including LHWMP, Ecology and the PEHSU. Michael Bergman (Ecology) is coordinating the project with assistance from Laura Hutchinson (CHILD Profile).

**Discussion items**

1. Shall we continue speakers? Yes, is the consensus of the group. We currently recruit those who members who are not at the table or other groups who may want to partner with our members. Send speaker ideas to Gail.
  - a. Dennis Weaver suggested inviting groups who may be interested in a particular speaker that month.
  - b. Nicole Thomsen is wondering about creation of a CHE-WA Children’s Environmental Health Working group board that could create the vision and structure to take us to the next level. Margo Young suggested we create structure that allows us to apply for grant. She suggested we re-focus on our mission/goals, create one other organizations can buy in to.
  - c. The group suggested that we change speaker guidance: 10 minute talk, 15 minutes of discussion. Let them know that the purposed of them coming is possible engagement and/or collaboration.
  - d. Keep meeting monthly, as opposed to every other month or once a quarter.
2. 2011 CHE-WA CEH working group project – Ideas: an event, a project (ex. build a huge coalition that wants to look at home visiting, with a holistic approach, eco-healthy childcares, taking an action agenda item from Forum and acting on it.) Gail will chair a group including Lauren Jenks, Nicole Thomsen, Margo Young, Cynthia Callahan and Jeanne Johnson.

**Attendance** (\* indicates by phone)

Julia Berg (note taker)	LHWMP
Michael Bergman	Department of Ecology
Cindy Callahan	Parent (formerly of Seattle Public Utilities and DOE)
Russ Clausen	EPA-Region X, Lead Program
Meredith Eddy	American Lung Association of the Pacific Northwest
Gail Gensler - facilitator	LHWMP

Steve Gilbert	INND
Lauren Jenks	WA Dept. of Health
Jeanne Johnson	ECOSS
Megan McJennett	Program Manager at Thrive by Five Washington
Cynthia Shurtleff	Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Nicole Thomsen	Public Health- Seattle & King County
Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food Change Your Life
Margo Young	EPA