

**Children's Environmental Health Working Group
Collaborative on Health and the Environment- WA (CHE-WA)**

Meeting Notes

Thursday, May 10, 2012 9:30-11:30

Next meeting: Thursday, June 14 Time: 9:30-11:30

Location: Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County (LHWMP), 130 Nickerson, Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98109

Next speaker: Philip C. Swartzendruber, Ph.D., Air Resources Specialist, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

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.

Facilitator/Speaker: Steve Gilbert **Note taker:** Julia Singer

Attendees: Find list at end of notes

Opening

Poem

INND (SG) read a poem inspired by SG's trip to Gaza

Overview of working group

CHE-WA CEH (GG) provided an overview of CHE-WA CEH working group for the many new attendees.

CHE-WA bi-annual meeting

INND (SG) reminded us of the upcoming CHE-WA meeting, Wednesday, May 30 from 1-3:30 at Antioch University. Topic: *Epigenetics: Science and Ethics*.

Discussion

CHE-WA Resource list update

(RK) We are compiling a list of our working group members' strengths and available resources; click here [CHE-WA Resource List](#). Link will be sent with notes, as well as in a separate email with a separate subject line); be as specific as you can; it may be that this list will illuminate where we have items to add.

2013 Children's Environmental Health Forum

The following people expressed interest in working on this: Fran Solomon, Sonia Hoglander, Dennis Weaver, Gail Gensler, Margo Young, Holly Davies, Rachel Koller, Kris Larson, Carolyn Gleason, Steve Gilbert, Aimee Boulanger, Julia Singer, and Tracy Bier.

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Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) services, various speakers

- (DdF) (HRSA) has a robust [public health website](#). HRSA focuses mainly on primary care and public health, and health equity (environmental justice)
- (CG) HRSA/Maternal and Child Health mentioned the Title V block grants to state which includes a focus on pre-pregnancy, pre-natal and peri-natal infants. Because of the [Life Course approach](#), MCH is newly interested in epigenetic and environmental health issues.
- (DB) HRSA/[BPHC](#) funds community health centers with a public health perspective. He ensures that their staff include the affected community's point of view in its care model.
- (LS) [ACF](#) is a federal agency funding state, territory, local, and tribal organizations to provide family assistance (welfare), child support, child care, Head Start, child welfare, and other programs relating to children and families.
- (JA, JM) [CMS](#) provides health coverage for 100 million people through Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. And with health insurance reforms and health care exchanges, they are improving health care and ensuring coverage for all Americans. They work with states, who administer the Program.

Some specific services they provide: test kids for lead if needed, provide \$ for pre-natal pregnant women, serve disabled and low income from birth to 64, provide early periodic diagnostic screening for folks under 21 years old to guarantee they get their needs met. In Washington, kids who don't have medical/dental insurance may qualify for [Apple Health for Kids](#).

Announcements and member updates

LHWMP (JS)

Handed out bookmarks to the new [Pesticide-Free Places](#) project.

US Environmental Protection Agency - Region X - EPA (MY)

Join the *Northwest Kids Environmental Health Group listserv* maintained by Ecology. The link is on: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/maillist.html>. People will be able to post messages to NW-KIDS-ENV-HEALTH@LISTSERV.WA.GOV. No commercial messages.

LHWMP (GG)

She is continuing to provide trainings to childcares on the [EcoHealthy Childcare](#) Program. Contact her for more information.

WA State Department of Ecology (HD)

Here is a link to the great *Chicago Tribune* investigative journalism series on flame retardants: <http://media.apps.chicagotribune.com/flames/index.html>

Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility -- WPSR (TB)

The Seattle times has a recent [editorial](#) on the costly complications from the Hanford cleanup.

HRSA (DdF)

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Passed around information on [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#). Their mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities

NW Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit --PEHSU (AO)

Ada is leaving because she now has a clinical position. Nancy Beaudet will resume her representation of the PEHSU. Thank you for your service, Ada! We hope you will continue to come to our events!

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry - ATSDR (KL)

We welcome Kris to the Seattle area and to her first meeting with our group! Kris is a health educator who specializes in environmental health issues and teaches classes to children and adults. Her office is in the EPA building.

LWHMP – Public Health (CW)

- Nicole Thomsen is back from China with her new daughter who is becoming livelier by the day.
- Tracee Mayfield just sent out a \$47,000 Request for Proposal for his Promotora project which is focused on reducing the impact of lead on the residential, Chinese-speaking community in the Beacon Hill community of Seattle.

HomEvolution Consulting (SH)

She specializes in electromagnetic radiation education and talks with young women about how to reduce their exposure. She would be happy to work with other audiences.

Washington State Department of Health -- WADOH (LJ)

- Lauren is changing positions and will no longer be attending these meetings. Thank you for your years of effort on behalf of children's environmental health! Please send details about your new position!
- She has been working on developing a state proposal for what a healthy home should be. The Case Management workgroup continues to gather input from around the state in order to create a protocol for what to do with child lead exposures, etc. This group is also building a master resource list of people who have information regarding healthy homes. The City of Seattle Code Enforcement Pilot Project has created a healthy homes checklist for rental code inspectors to test.

Speaker:

Dr. Steven G. Gilbert, Director and Founder of the Institute of Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders (INND), has a Ph.D. in Toxicology from the University of Rochester, and is a Diplomat of American Board of Toxicology (D.A.B.T.). His book, *A Small Dose of Toxicology- The Health Effects of Common Chemicals* addressing everyday concerns about toxicology was published in 2004 (see www.asmalldoseof.org).

His talk focused on his recent trip to Gaza and the children's environmental health issues he observed, including: rampant lead exposure because of leaded gasoline used in personal generators, prevalence

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and acceptance of smoking, kids not having safe public places to play and unregulated pesticides used on the food supply.

Attendees

1.	Janice Adams	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) – Region X
2.	Judy Bardin*	Washington State Department of Health (WADOH)/Environmental Health
3.	Dale Bates	Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)/ Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)
4.	Nancy Bernard*	WADOH/School Environmental Health & Safety Program
5.	Tracy Bier	Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility (WPSR)
6.	Aimee Boulanger*	CHE-WA
7.	Tom Buchanan	WPSR/ Hanford
8.	Ashley Chin*	University of Washington (UW)/Environmental Health Class
9.	Julianne Crevatin	Office of Head Start/Health and Human Services (HHS)
10.	Michelle Gaither*	Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC)
11.	Gail Gensler	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County (LHWMP)
12.	Holly Davies	Washington Department of Ecology
13.	Celeste Davis	Indian Health Service (IHS)
14.	Steve Gilbert (speaker/facilitator)	Institute of Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders (INND)
15.	Diana De Forest (host)	HHS/HRSA Region X
16.	Shirra Freeman	Hebrew University
17.	Carolyn Gleason	HRSA/Maternal and Child Health (MCHB)
18.	Sonia Hoglander	HomEvolution Consulting

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19.	Janice Holt	HHS/ACT/
20.	Lauren Jenks*	WADOH/ Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
21.	Rachel Koller	Environmental Health Consultant
22.	Kris Larson	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
23.	Jan Mertel	CMS – Region X
24.	Samantha Miller	UW/Environmental Health Class
25.	Cabrini Morris	Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Administration for Children and Families (ACF)
26.	Paul Noski	Office of Childcare/ ACF
27.	Toni Nunes*	Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
28.	Ada Otter	Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU)
29.	Ana Rivero	Washington Toxics Coalition (WTC)
30.	Barbara Ross	Environmental Protection Agency - Region X, Lead Program
31.	Julia Singer (note taker)	LHWMP
32.	Fran Solomon	The Evergreen State College, Tacoma
33.	Lewissa Swanson	HHS/ACF Region X
34.	Bert Walagota*	UW/Environmental Health Class
35.	Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food - Change Your Life!
36.	Charles Wu	LHWMP
37.	Margo Young	EPA – Region X