

Collaborative on Health and the Environment-Washington (CHE-WA)
Children's Environmental Health Working Group - Meeting Notes
June 12, 2008 9:30-11:30
Location: King County Hazardous Waste Program Office

(Attendance list at very end)

Accomplishments Report

1. Aimee: Children's Environmental Health Conference is shaping up. There's a possibility of new resources.
2. Cedar:
 - Working on getting statewide resources into next biennium budget
 - Seeking money for a grant for a statewide initiative on "Toxic-free tips" : products aren't safe just because they're on the shelf...read the labels. Safe tips.
 - Crafting templates that people can download, want to replicate good materials
 - Measuring results of behavior change
 - Replicating statewide survey
 - \$3K have been dedicated to conference
3. Gensler: The group finds her e-mail information updates useful. **Decision: Continue them.**

Matrix Discussion

1. The group discussed what a useful matrix might look like. Ideas/thoughts/goals:
Become the Craigslist of Children's Environmental Health. Organize around Health Outcomes such as:
 - Asthma
 - Lead
 - Exposure routes
 - Schools' issuesInclude these fields:
 - What do you do?
 - What are your interests?
 - Who do you work with?
 - Who is your target audience?
 - What are the goals of your organization?
 - What is the focus of your organization?

Decision: Margo and Michelle will produce a matrix and send it to us.

Mission & Goals Statement: sharing with advocacy groups. What does that mean/look like?

1. Aimee
Most advocacy groups in the region that work on children's environmental health are members of CHE-WA. She can send information specifically to a subset of that group.
2. Dennis
 - Share our mission with a greater number of national advocacy groups, including <http://grassrootsnetroots.org/index.cfm>
 - Capitalize on the marketing aspects
 - Pursue a direct link to Farm Aid, www.farmaid.com
3. Tracee and others
 - Tap into passion /power at school building and childcare meetings, visits with hospital staff etc
 - Put our roots into smallest aspects of the community; invite others to attend our meetings.

- Create a matrix of group that exist out there, even the temporary ones, so they can network through us, with us, and with each other. Broaden the matrix
 - Create a catalog or listserv of the Mission and Goals of all interest groups
 - Create a blog or a 'well oiled' web site.
4. Aimee
- Consider providing resources to resource-poor interest groups.
 - A directory of WA environmental justice contacts already exists. For a start, see <http://washington.chenw.org/pdfs/EJDirectory.pdf> list created by CHE-WA.
 - **Decision: Aimee will tell the CHE-WA list members likely to be interested in our group about what we're doing and invite them to attend. She will also pass the word to the Toxic Free Legacy.**
 - **Decision: Conference subcommittee will discuss "who's not there."**

Old Business/Reports/Updates:

1. Conference Committee (Jeff)
 - Met on May 29th; minutes are available
 - Saturday designed to be a user-friendly, layman's type day.
 - Tentatively planning a three-day conference. Th and Fr being research oriented and
 - Target dates = Spring or Fall of 2009
 - Next meeting will discuss funding, coordinators, and sites
 - Translation for the Saturday session is being considered

2. National Children's Study (Margo and Michelle)
 - Covers children preconception to 21, will include around 100,000 kids
 - Not something people can opt into (because of study design elements). Will largely serve as a repository of data that others can tap into.
 - In a wait and see mode now, expect OMB approval in July
 - No funds available in the '09 budget
 - The professional judgment need is \$192 million
 - Enrollment at vanguard sites is expected in September '08
 - Enrollment at UW will be in 2010
 - Study is waiting for lessons learned to be published, probably a smart move, though frustrating
 - Elise Miller was nominated as a local community representative.

3. Lead Meeting in Las Vegas (Russ)
 - 120 to 150 people attended
 - The states are ahead of the Feds on this topic
 - Atmospheric Ozone or NOX impacts on lead-based paints, surface gets rough—which increases surface area and exposure.
 - California Proposition 65: You can't expose people to chemicals known to cause cancer or reproductive harm without first giving clear warning. It affects lead in candy—both the wrapper and candy. And it deals with reusable pop bottles— since businesses put up up to 51% lead-based ceramic paint on the logos on the outside of the glass bottles to better withstand repeated washings.

4. State DOH Expert Advisory panel on blood lead levels (Jeff)
 - Discussed setting blood testing levels guidelines
 - Recommendations out next week. Things look favorable.

- Concerned about the acceptable limit going down because we can't deal with what we have now.
5. Children's Safe Products Act (Jeff)
 - Lead and cadmium may be in inaccessible electronics inside children's toys
 - Need to examine the product stewardship angle
 - Toys are withdrawn but the toys sometimes come back
 6. NAHHMA Conference 'factoids' (Gail)
 - California just passed a law that you can't smoke with a child in the car
 - Washington is now #3 in breast cancer; formerly was #1.
 - California cosmetic manufacturers are now reformulating products so they don't contain carcinogens instead of reporting their presence
 - High levels of phthalates in sludge; house dust is the suspect source.
 - Now time to let the public know about R.E.A.C.H.
 7. Duwamish River Cleanup Fest
 - Blood lead testing won't be available from Public Health by August.
 - **Decision: Aimee will check in with Heather and let people know about dates, etc.**
 8. Introduce a resolution at the Washington State Public Health Association meeting in October?
Steve will be introducing a resolution.
Decision: topic tabled until next meeting
 9. Vaccines discussion: are we going to address them? Aerosol vaccines are always a complex issue.
Decision: Put vaccine topic in the on-hold "parking lot"

Attendance list:

Aimee Boulanger	Institute of Children's Environmental Health
Angela Delahoz	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Cedar Bouta	Department of Ecology
Cindy Callahan	Seattle Pacific University
Christine Matter-Rinehart	Tacoma-Pierce County Health
Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food-Change Your Life!
Gail Gensler	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Henry Draper (notetaker)	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Jeanne Johnson	ECOSS
Jeff Ketchel	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Julia Berg(facilitator)	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Margo Young	US Environmental Protection Agency
Michelle Gaither	Pollution Prevention Resource Center
Michelle Sommargren	NW Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit
Miranda Taylor	Gesundheit Acupuncture and Herbs
Russ Clausen	EPA
Thai Nguyen	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Tracee Mayfield	Public Health-Seattle and King County