

WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

3/2/16 Meeting Summary

Legislative Update – *Brian Skinner*

- SB 387, *Shared animal ownership agreements to consume raw milk*: signed by the Governor on 3/3/2016.
- HB 4659, *Authorizing local health departments to bill health insurance plans for services*: Passed the House and on the way to the Senate.
- HB 404, *Removing prohibition on billing persons for testing for HIV and sexually transmitted diseases*: In the Senate. Amended to allow individuals coming into contact with first responders to be tested for HIV/Hepatitis.
- SB 434, *Allowing home-based micro-processed foods sold at farmers markets*: Would amend the Manufactured Foods bill. BPH has some concerns about this. However, the Bureau has retained rule-making authority that can protect the public health.
- SB 123, *Treatment for sexually transmitted diseases*: Allows for expedited partner therapy. Signed by the Governor February 25th.

Center for Local Health (CLH) Updates – *Amy Atkins and Rebecca Schmidt*

- LHD Billing
 - Fees Report Summary: CLH has received fees for service report for all agencies except for 3. Center staff will be following up with those agencies that submitted incomplete reports. We are developing a summary of the data and once vetted and approved it will be available on our website.
 - Medicaid Webinar: 12 LHDs provided a point of contact to the Center for Local Health and that information was compiled and provided to the Bureau for Medical Services. BMS and the fiscal agent for BMS are available to provide direct one-on-one technical assistance. This week, the Center received the draft LHD Medicaid policy for review and input. We will provide our input by March 7. The target date for posting the policy for public comment is April 1 with implementation to begin July 1. An FAQ has been developed from questions received during and after the webinar and is posted on the CLH website with the Medicaid webinar: www.dhhr.wv.gov/localhealth/administration/Pages/Medicaid-Webinar.aspx.
- Program Plan: The Program Plan is the structure for demonstrating the value of the public health system and accountability for the funding. We heard from the PHITF process, from local health departments individually and from the WVALHD leadership that there should be more guidance and clearer expectations around the program plan. We will be working with BPH programs, as we do every year, on the program plan guidance. However, this year we will be using the same process used by other Bureaus and posting a formal policy for 30 days for public and partner comment prior to release of the policy.
- LHD Requests and Resources:
 - Requests: Mr. Bundy submitted a request on behalf of the Association to hear more about the types of requests the Center is receiving. A summary of the types of requests we have received is available in the Center update sent to all administrators on February 18th. The Center is responding to individual requests that would not necessarily be appropriate to share statewide. However, four areas are important to highlight in terms of resources for local health departments.
 - CLH website: The Center is continuing to develop the website as a navigable resource for local health departments, boards of health, county commissions and the public. Please send feedback on/ideas for the website to dhhrbphclh@wv.gov.

- WV Try This Partnership: The Center has been meeting monthly with Kate Long, the director for *Try This West Virginia*, to identify ways to partner on resources for community health assessments and implementation plans. *Try This West Virginia* has a host of resources on evidence based practices as well as tools to guide communities through identifying projects that they can tie to community health improvement plans. *Try This West Virginia* is also focused on supporting projects that follow SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time-bound) objectives and demonstrate results. Kate Long will be speaking to the WVALHD this month and *Try This West Virginia* will have a table at the WV Local Health Officer Summit.
- NACCHO Management Essentials:
 - NACCHO is offering a Management Training series for local health department workforce (management/supervisor level). Program overview sessions were provided at the 2015 NACCHO conference but this is a more in-depth program.
 - A notice about the training was previously emailed to all NACCHO members and, due to an overwhelming response, registrations were closed.
 - NACCHO recently re-opened registration and requested that the CLH coordinate future registrations. There may be some West Virginia participants registered but NACCHO does not ask for location information at registration and can only verify who has been registered by cross-checking names. The Project Manager at NACCHO will be coordinating all further registrations directly with CLH to ensure that the process is streamlined and there are no registration duplications - Deadline for registrations to be sent to NACCHO is March 10th. CLH contacted several new administrators and health officers yesterday to highlight this training opportunity and sent out detailed information to LHD administrators and health officers. First priority will be given to NACCHO members.
 - This series is designed to enhance the skills of local health officials (LHOs) to address the complex, real-world, issues facing local health departments on a daily basis. NACCHO encourages Administrators, Health Officers and BOH Members with one to three years of experience who are seeking additional management training to take these trainings.
 - The training series is divided into 3 courses over the next 9 weeks (March 16th through May 16th): Fundamentals of Financial Management; Successful People Management; and Strategic Planning Each course has 6-7 modules each. You can participate in a single course or in multiple courses but you must commit to attending all modules (modules are 1.5 hours on a weekly basis and are provided in a virtual classroom environment).
 - CLH will be participating in a conference call this week with the NACCHO Program Director and Project Manager to discuss the program and review additional training opportunities that may be available (2 to 3 day on-site training).
- Local Health Officer Summit: The WV Local Health Officer Summit will take place April 8th and 9th at the Charleston Marriott Town Center. Registration information was distributed to local health officers, with administrators cc'd, on Friday 2/26. Health officers are **strongly** encouraged to attend. As of Friday, March 4th, 10 health officers have registered.

WVALHD Updates – Chad Bundy

- Mr. Bundy was asked to talk about the resources and discussions the Association is having with its membership to support local health department capacity and programs.
- The Association's committees have been fairly active particularly around the legislative session. Mr. Bundy was not prepared with a full report but will provide one at the next Partnership meeting.

Center for Threat Preparedness Update – Jerry Rhodes

- Donnie Haynes is the new Deputy Director for the Center for Threat Preparedness

- The CTP continues to experience staffing challenges and has applied for a second CDC Preparedness Field Assignee who would start late summer/early fall if approved
- The next CTP preparedness orientation will take place March 10, 2016 at the CTP office in Charleston from 9am to 5pm. Registration is through WVTrain (Course ID 1037306). For further information contact Luke Mitchell at Luke.R.Mitchell@wv.gov or by phone at 304-558-6900.

Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services Update – *Loretta Haddy*

- The State TB Program continues to experience staffing changes and has been structured into a Northern and Southern region for clinics.
- Dr. Matthew Simmons will be covering the Northern Region with Angie Gray, RN scheduling and coordinating those clinics.
- Dr. Sandra Elliott will cover the diagnostic clinics and will be transitioning into Dr. Gaziano's role as well as covering the Southern Region.
- For non-clinical issues, local health departments should contact Central office staff. Additional information will be distributed by OEPS in the coming weeks.

Office of Environmental Health Services Update – *Walt Ivey*

- Harmful algae bloom occurred last year on the Ohio River. The OEHS is actively engaged with several state and federal partners as well as local health departments (Wheeling-Ohio and Cabell-Huntington) to adapt Ohio's emergency plan for West Virginia in case a bloom occurs this year.

General Discussion

- Dr. Drema Mace proposed that the Partnership explore and discuss different models for organizing local boards of health including strong local models and regional models and looking at data broader than financial indicators. Members discussed the importance of having these discussions both at the WVALHD and the WVPHD, in terms of raising the work of the WVALHD Future's Committee for discussion/reexamination, and within the Partnership. Members agreed to add this item to the Partnership agenda for April and the Center for Local Health will be coordinating with Chad Bundy, WVALHD President.
- Several members requested that the Partnership's Charter/Guiding Principles be circulated again for review and discussion. The Partnership Charter/Guiding Principles will be discussed as an agenda item at the next Partnership meeting.
- Dr. Haddy requested that the WVALHD provide an update of Electronic Health Record (EHR) usage and adoption at the next Partnership meeting. The Center for Local Health will provide a summary of EHRs being used by local health departments collected from the local health department fees reports.
- Christina Mullins requested a discussion/update from local health departments on what client populations look like for family planning due to interest from the federal level.

Please note: Agenda items from the West Virginia Association of Local Health Departments are strongly encouraged. The Partnership is intended as a forum for local health and Bureau leadership to share ideas, resources and feedback. We are particularly interested in health departments that would like to share an evidence based practice or program that they have implemented in their community.