

5/4/16 Statewide Call Summary

Zika Action Plan – Loretta Haddy, PhD, MS, State Epidemiologist and Director, Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services

- The Bureau for Public Health has formed a Zika Action Planning Task Force. At the state level the key partners include: the Department of Agriculture, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and internally the Office Maternal Child and Family Health, Office of Environmental Health Services, Center for Local Health, Office of Laboratory Services and Center for Threat Preparedness, among others.
- The Zika Action Plan will align with guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and contain six major sections: communications, surveillance, laboratory testing, vector (mosquito) control, outreach to pregnant women, and blood safety.
- A Zika webpage is being developed to host all Zika information. Information can also be found on the Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology website. A webinar is being planned and more information will be provided when available.
- Funding to support Zika response is being made available through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity grant (ELC) and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant. The categories for funding within the ELC grant include: surveillance of vector-borne disease, lab testing, improving surveillance and sustaining laboratory diagnostic capacity, implementing and evaluating public health practice, enhancing outbreak investigation response and reporting, implementing public health practice prevention and control strategies, and coordination and collaboration. The categories for funding within the PHEP grant have not been released to date.
- The Commissioner issued an order to add Zika Virus as a category 2 reportable disease. The order has been filed with the Secretary of State.
- Both species of mosquitoes that transmit Zika are present in West Virginia. The peak period for surveillance is August/September. Coordination with district sanitarians and local health departments will be on-going. When Zika cases are identified, environmental assessments of homes will be coordinated to reduce risk of local transmission.
- Testing for Zika is currently being conducted at the CDC laboratory in Fort Collins. The Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health will coordinate referrals and care coordination through the home visitation program, Right From The Start Program, Birth To Three Program and the program for children with special healthcare needs.
- Additional information can be accessed in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWRs) at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/zika_reports.html.

State Support – Amy Atkins, MPA, Director, Center for Local Health

- Given the current fiscal crisis in West Virginia and the lack of a state budget for FY 2017, the Bureau anticipates that the proposed 24% reduction in State Aid line item will remain and could increase. Further, it is important for local agencies to be planning for contingencies should further reductions occur and/or a delay in funding should a state budget not be passed by July 1. As we receive information regarding the FY 2017 budget, we will share it with local health departments.

Emergency Fund

- The FY 2016 Emergency Fund Call for Applications is open through May 7, 2016 for local boards of health seeking funds to address emergencies. Applications will be reviewed and determinations made by May 15, 2016. Any funds remaining will be distributed to all local boards of health as per the funding formula at the end of the year.

Program Plan

- The 2017 Program Plan SharePoint site was launched on May 2, 2016. Local health departments should submit data on the forms and templates provided on or before June 15, 2016.
- The transition of the Program Plan reporting process to SharePoint will result in a cost-savings of \$45,000/year, reduce reporting requirements while increasing accountability for funds, and align the Center with the Department's use of SharePoint for select reporting functions including the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program.
- Two guidance documents were provided to all local health departments to support the Program Plan reporting process which include Basic Public Health Services FY 2017 Program Plan Guidance and FY 2017 Program Plan SharePoint Submission Instructions.
- Local health departments should contact the Center for Local Health with questions at dhhrbphclh@wv.gov or 304-558-8870.

Funding Opportunities

- *Try This WV Mini Grant Program and Conference Scholarships* – <http://trythiswv.com>
 - The Try This WV mini-grant program challenges local teams to create worthwhile community healthy lifestyle projects for \$3,000 or less. To be eligible for a mini-grant, at least three members of your team must attend the Try This WV Conference to be held on June 3 & 4 at West Virginia Wesleyan College, Buckhannon, WV.
- *Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge* – <http://test.healthiestcities.org/>
 - The challenge is a partnership between Aetna Foundation, APHA and National Association of Counties (administered by CEOs for Cities) and empowers small to mid-size cities and counties to create a positive health impact.
- *Accountable Health Community Model* – <https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/ahcm>
 - The Accountable Health Communities Model is based on emerging evidence that addressing health-related social needs through enhanced clinical-community linkages can improve health outcomes and reduce costs. Unmet health-related social needs, such as food insecurity and inadequate or unstable housing, may increase the risk of developing chronic conditions, reduce an individual's ability to manage these conditions, increase health care costs, and lead to avoidable health care utilization. Over a five-year period, CMS will implement and test a three-track model based on promising service delivery approaches.
- *Center for Sharing Public Health Services – Mini-Grant Program* – <http://phsharing.org/>
 - Up to five mini-grants are available for public health agencies or their designated agents that wish to explore, plan, implement or improve some aspects of a cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS) arrangement. Eligible CJS arrangements must include a minimum of three jurisdictions of any size, or two jurisdictions if the combined population is 50,000 or greater. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis starting February 15 until June 10, 2016 or until all five grants are awarded, whichever comes first.

Professional Development Opportunities

- *Aligning Community Health with Investment Conference*
 - Sponsored by the University of New Hampshire Carsey School of Public Policy and Public Health Institute
 - May 25 – 26, 2016 at Charleston Marriott Town Center in Charleston, WV
 - Registration and additional information can be found at: <http://carsey.unh.edu/cif/community-health-conference>
- *A Systems Approach to Creating Healthy Communities: Health and Community Development*
 - Sponsored by West Virginia University in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
 - July 13, 2016 8am-5pm, WVU Charleston Division, 3110 MacCorkle Ave SE, Charleston, WV
 - Additional information can be found at: <http://immunizenow.org/CRHD/Calendar/2016/Day/2016/07/13/>