

9/7/16 Statewide LHD Call Summary

Hosted by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, Center for Local Health

Participants: Local Health Departments Represented – 34

Bureau Staff – 14

Guests – 4

Bureau for Public Health Staffing Updates

Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services

- Dr. Loretta Haddy, who has served more than 36 years with the Bureau for Public Health in the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services, will move to the Commissioner's Office where she will continue to serve as the State Epidemiologist. Dr. Haddy will work directly with the Commissioner/State Health Officer to increase attention to cross-cutting roles of disease surveillance, prevention and control that extend well beyond the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services including chronic disease, disaster preparedness, maternal, child and family health, substance abuse, environmental health and others. Dr. Haddy will also assist the Commissioner/State Health Officer and Public Information Officer with provision of timely, sensitive data analyses and interpretation.
- Dr. Carrie Thomas has been selected to serve as the Interim Director of the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services. Dr. Thomas was selected for her education and experience in public health at the local, state and federal levels. Dr. Thomas will oversee the operations of the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services which includes the Divisions of Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Epidemiologic Informatics and Evaluation; STD, HIV and Hepatitis; Cancer Epidemiology; Immunization Services; and TB Elimination.
- This transition will enhance the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services' administrative operations such as broad oversight of strategic direction, personnel, budgets, grants, document review/editing, purchasing and similar administrative functions. Dr. Thomas will represent the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services at the Bureau for Public Health Leadership Team meetings.

Center for Local Health

- Linda Lipscomb has accepted a position with the Center for Threat Preparedness as their Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program Coordinator, Carolyn Elswick's former position. This is a great opportunity and we wish Linda the very best.
- Gloria Thompson, the Center's Secretary, will be on leave through mid-October.
- Samantha Batdorf joined the Center effective September 1st as an epidemiologist. Sam will be focusing on developing a robust community health assessment program and on making data available for local health departments to use in planning and quality improvement initiatives. Sam recently graduated from the University of Michigan's Masters of Public Health program and was previously employed at the Washtenaw County Health Department in Michigan.
- The Center has also been notified that a Public Health Associate from CDC will be joining our team for a two-year placement starting October 3rd.

WV State Health Plan

Roger Chaufournier, Founder and Principal, CSI Solutions, Inc.

The State Health Plan is a legislative mandate which the West Virginia Healthcare Authority is responsible for developing and implementing in partnership with the Bureau for Public Health and other public health and health system partners. Mr. Chaufournier explained that the presentation was one of the ways in which local health departments would be engaged in the planning process. The presentation was shared with all meeting participants.

Zika Update

Donnie Haynes, Deputy Director, Center for Threat Preparedness

- CDC Update: National case counts can be found on the Centers for Disease Control website at <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/united-states.html>
- WV Update: State case counts and the Zika Action Plan can be found on the Bureau for Public Health's Zika website at www.zikawv.org
- The Bureau is distributing dunks to all local health departments. At this time, dunks should only be used for nuisance mosquito complaints and/or Zika cases. Additional dunks will be distributed in the near future; however, the state cache needs to last and be spread out for two (2) years. According to the manufacturer, the dunks have a two-year shelf life with appropriate storage.

Miguella Mark-McCrew, PhD, Zoonotic Disease Epidemiologist, Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (DIDE), Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services (OEPS)

- The Bureau has launched a website with resources and information on Zika for the public and partner agencies, including local health departments. The website is hosted by OEPS and can be accessed at www.zikawv.org
- Multiple new documents and resources for local health departments are available on the Zika website including the following:
 - *Zika Virus Disease Protocol*: Document outline case management of Zika virus disease.
 - *Who Should be Tested for Zika?* Use this flowchart to determine if a patient should be tested for Zika.
 - *Instructions for Local Health Departments Regarding Suspected Zika Virus Cases*: Instructions for local health departments regarding suspected Zika cases.
 - *Diagnostic Testing*: Testing for Zika virus should be coordinated through the local health department, state health department, and state laboratory. Information types of testing available and how to collect specimens can be found here.
 - *Travel Associated Illness*: This form should be used to assess patients who return from foreign travel with illness. Note: Local health departments are asked to complete the travel-associated illness screening form for all consults for pregnant women.
- It is critical for suspected cases of Zika to be reported to the health department within 24 hours. Timely reporting allows for education about sexual transmission (and general disease prevention); potential prevention of local transmission of Zika; and an opportunity to conduct an environmental assessment at the case's home.
- The Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology would like to be notified of any outreach activities local health departments are conducting to local providers. Please note that it is important for providers

to actively discourage travel for pregnant women to affected areas, which is a departure from previous guidance that advised pregnant women to take precautions when travelling.

- The Bureau is actively working to expand mosquito surveillance and is exploring providing training to local health departments who would like to participate in mosquito surveillance activities, as well as providing interns for interested agencies.
- The Bureau will be purchasing and providing travel kits for citizens travelling to affected areas.
- Q & A
 1. *Question:* Is the state lab shutting down Zika testing to test for influenza?
Answer: The lab that tests mosquitos will be ending mosquito testing for this season to focus on influenza testing. The Bioterrorism Lab provides Zika testing and will continue to test.
 2. *Question:* Can local health departments get reimbursed for dry ice?
Answer: The Bureau plans to support local health departments that participate in mosquito surveillance. This may include providing them with traps, training, and other resources to ensure successful surveillance activities.

Tobacco Program Update

Bruce Adkins, Director, Office of Community Health Systems and Health Promotion

- The Clean Indoor Air Program has been downsized from 10 regional people to 6 due to funding changes.
- Local health department regional points of contact may have changed (*refer to handout*).
- Regional staff are responsible for visiting local health and providing technical assistance and resources, particularly related to clean indoor air regulations. Please note that Region 1 does not have a regional person officially in place. Materials will be updated and local health departments will be notified once this person has been hired.
- A handout for tobacco cessation referrals has been updated (*refer to handout*).

The next statewide meeting will be held October 7th from 1pm – 2pm at the Diamond Building in conference room B10-11.