Public Health Advisory Council and Public Health Evaluation Committee

March 7, 2013
Meeting Minutes

The joint meeting of the Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) and Public Health Evaluation Committee (PHEC) was held at the Jordan Creek Town Center Community Room in West Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting began at 10:00 AM.

Council members present:
Betty Mallen, Dr. Mary Mincer Hansen, Aimee Devereaux, Donn Dierks, Laura Beeck, Martha Gelhaus, Amy Thoreson, Dr. Ron Eckoff, Dr. Ann Garvey, Dr. Robert Welander, Julie McMahon, Dr. Ron Eckoff, Dr. Ann Garvey, Dr. Robert Welander, Julie McMahon, Frank Magsamen

Council members absent:
Chris Atchison, Kari Prescott

Committee members present:
Jonn Durbin, Ken Sharp, Dr. Lisa Kapler, Sheri Bowen, Dr. Pam Duffy, Kaitlin Emrich

Committee members absent:
Dr. Mike Pentella, Julie Schilling, Dr. Jason Hockenberry, Kim Westerholm, Dr. Jim Torner, Dr. Tanya Uden-Holman

Others attending:
Joy Harris – Lead Staff
Karla Dorman – Support Staff

Welcome and Introductions
Amy Thoreson, Advisory Council Chair, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting. The members then went around the table and made introductions.

Reports on Activities & Accomplishments

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) report
- Dr. Mincer Hansen reported on the PHAC’s activities from the past year.
- They reviewed and updated the metrics after the beta test was completed.
- The updated Iowa Public Health Standards (IPHS) became effective January 2013.
- Several members of the Council and Committee met with Dr. Miller Meeks to keep the dialogue about Public Health Modernization moving as well as to determine the direction of both groups.
- The Council spent time on the Governmental Public Health Baseline Survey.

Public Health Evaluation Committee (PHEC) report
- Joy Harris gave a report on the PHEC’s activities from the past year.
- They spent a lot of time working on the Governmental Public Health Baseline Survey.
They were able to send out the Local and State surveys, get them back and have completed the report on the Local Governmental Public Health Baseline Survey results. Work on the State report is underway.

71% of the invited participants completed the survey.

They have been attempting to find the answer to the question, “what is the return on investment for accreditation.” It is difficult as there is not much data since the modernization movement is so new. Joy will check with the 2 states and 6 local counties that have received national accreditation on whether they have any information that addresses the question.

They will continue to monitor and look for resources from those who are going ahead.

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) report

Joy also reported on IDPH’s activities toward Modernization from the past year. The Council and Committee were affected by the loss of Erin Barkema’s leadership dedicated to the Committee.

Jonn Durbin and Joy Harris are connected to the National Network of Public Health Institutes and the CDC through the NNPHI grant. They have awarded money to states for performance management (PM), quality improvement (QI) and accreditation efforts.

Joy and Jonn have been introducing QI and PM to some groups at IDPH.

IDPH has stayed involved with the Open Forum, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s updated Multi State Learning Collaborative. Joy has been to meetings and participated in their webinars. They are developing a lot of tools around accreditation readiness and QI. NACCHO has put out examples of evidence that has been used to meet the PHAB standards requirements.

Information from the local baseline survey is being shared with IPHA and ICPHA. They are helping to get the information out.

The state baseline survey report is currently being written. After the Council and Committee have seen the report, it will be shared with the Executive Team and bureau chiefs. Ken Sharp and Julie McMahon will distribute it to local entities.

The suggestion was made for the Advisory Council to come up with a plan to address any gaps or problems there may be in the state results, and offer assistance to the E-Team.

An RFP is being released to fund QI efforts linked to the Standards and the baseline survey. Money from the Public Health Fund will be used.

New Business

Wayne and Appanoose counties are looking into forming a district board of health (DBOH). Joy Harris and Berdette Ogden have been providing technical assistance.

Showing how they will meet the IPHS is part of the application for forming a DBOH.

Planning for Modernization next steps

The group discussed the next steps for Modernization.

Their focus should be on using the standards as the guide for quality improvement in public health.

The Advisory Council and Evaluation Committee support the work of IDPH toward quality improvement.

The group feels their role is to advise the director that IDPH should be leading in meeting the standards.
- The group spent much time discussing ways to build support for Public Health Modernization. Some of the ideas:
  - Share more information – get our message out
  - Speak at local public health meetings
  - Let them know what’s in it for them
  - Assist local administrators with finding their fit in ACOs
  - Help them see how the standards are important to public health and that public health is important to ACOs
  - Use some of the public health fund money to update the Modernization website
  - Provide educational materials for local boards of health and local boards of supervisors

Organization and roles of PHAC and PHEC
  - The group looked at the organizational table of the council and committee with the SBOH and IDPH.
  - It was decided to add a staff support piece to the table in between the council and committee and leave the rest of the chart the same.

Open Discussion
  - The members discussed what the council and committee should focus on in the next year.
    - Regular communication
    - Succession planning
    - RFP for QI based around the Standards
    - Recommend tools and technical assistance
    - More collaboration with Iowa Counties Public Health Association (ICPHA) and Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA)
    - Gauge the impact of federal budget cuts on capacity to maintain movement
    - Determine how the Affordable Care Act will affect funding
    - Answer to the “return on investment” question
    - Relook at the structure of the PHAC and PHEC
  - In the next 3 years:
    - Look at the Standards again
    - Do the survey again
    - Keep ACO metrics on the radar with the IPHS
    - Crosswalk the 6 functions of the BOH with the IPHS
    - Bring back the accreditation committee and look at accreditation
    - Identify an organization to be responsible for accrediting
    - Review legislation and suggest changes
  - Amy Thoreson reminded the group of the next Open Forum meeting for Quality Improvement in Public Health being held in Milwaukee on June 12 and 13.
  - Joy shared information about the pre-conference workshop, Quality Improvement in Iowa’s Public Health System: Connecting QI to Health Reform and Modernization. It is being held on April 8, the day before the Iowa Governor’s Conference on Public Health.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30