

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2022



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



ATTENDING: Jennifer McElravey, Leticia Vitela, Eileen Derr, David Eppelsheimer, Hemi Pariyani, Julie Scotland, Rachel Arnold, Tom Engle, Sonja Ackman, Larysa Thomas, Madhavi Bharadwaj, Nicole Bowles

ABSENT: Dick Stenson, Robin Bousquet, Commissioner Nafisa Fai, Andrea Lara Silva

STAFF: Dr. Marie Boman-Davis, Alex Coleman, Vivianna Lindley, Dr. Phytusin Myint, Lyndi Petty

GUEST PRESENTERS: Adrienne Donner, Evan Weaver, Alicia Lee, Zev Braun

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Afam Okoye, Shannon Buxell

Welcome

Jennifer started the meeting with introductions in the chat.

Approve November's Meeting Minutes

November's minutes were reviewed. Jennifer McElravey motioned to approve the minutes. Eileen Derr seconded the motion. All in favor and none opposed. The motion was passed.

COVID Update

PHAC members received an update on COVID within the county. See PowerPoint for more details.

- Graph color key:

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/oregon.health.authority.covid.19/viz/GISAIDVariantDashboardUpdated/LineagePrevalencevertime>

Lineage										
Delta (B.1.617.2/AY..)	Omicron (B.1.1.529, B..)	Alpha (B.1.1.7/ Q Lineages)	Beta (B.1.351 and sublineag..)	Gamma (P.1 and sublineag..)	Epsilon (B.1.427/B.1.42)	Eta (B.1.525)	Iota (B.1.526)	Mu (B.1.621/B.1.62)	Zeta (P.2)	All other variants
Yellow	Red	Blue	Green	Dark Grey	Light Red	Orange	Teal	Pink	Brown	Purple

- Working with CBOs to provide vaccinations to groups lower in vaccination rates along with continuing our mobile clinics
- The County has opened a Vaccine Clinic at Washington Street Conference Center. It is open to all community members, no ID or insurance required
- We are updating our Vaccine website pages with the most current information as it comes to us

Q: What is the timeline on the vaccine for children under 5?

A: Currently there are no updates on when that will come.

Q: How did you decide to move away from case investigation and contact tracing and move towards vaccination?

A: Because of how Omicron spreads and the importance of vaccination in controlling that spread we made the choice to put our efforts in vaccination and pull away from investigation and tracing which do not help control spread at this point.

Q: How long will the Omicron wave last?

A: Peak hospitalizations are expected at the end of January.

ARPA Update

PHAC members received an update on work currently being funded through Tranche 1 of ARPA funding. See PowerPoint for more details.

- Currently working on proposals for work to be funded by Tranche 2 of ARPA
- Mental Health supports for childcare providers/clients may become a state funded program. With Washington County spearheading these kinds of programs we can set up a foundation for future state supports
- We lost about 400-500 childcare sites during COVID; this is a 30% reduction. This is dire considering our County overall is a childcare dessert, meaning there are three times the number of children that need childcare than available spaces
- The complexities of childcare: It is very expensive for consumers, and expensive for providers who work at very low wages. It will require a lot of business and governmental support to implement the programs mentioned in the presentation
- More information on ARPA can be found on our website
https://www.co.washington.or.us/Support_Services/Finance/GrantManagement/board-adopts-recovery-package-investment-plan.cfm

Q: Are we tracking the percentage of County residents with food insecurity before and after the funding of food access programs with ARPA? Also, how do we ensure that going forward our budget includes funding to ensure 100% of residents have food security.

A: This priority was identified through existing data. We had seen this come up as a priority in our CHIP data prior to the pandemic and then really saw numbers increasing through our EOC during the first part of the pandemic. We will be collecting demographic data through the organizations receiving funds which will help us understand the impact this influx of funding will allow us to make. Moving forward we're looking at how to leverage other existing funds to continue to support this work with the goal of being able to continue to fully support the existing need for the community.

Q: Are we doing anything to support retaining the childcare workforce we have? In addition to growing the workforce.

A: The business support projects are targeted towards existing providers, so our current and proposed programs really are geared toward retaining the current workforce through that support.

Ethics Framework Update

PHAC members provided input on the proposed updates to the PHAC ethics documents.

- Jennifer McElravey motioned to approve the Ethics charter. David Eppelsheimer seconded the motion. All in favor and none opposed. The motion was passed.

Budget Update

PHAC members received an overview of the FY 22-23 budget cycle. See PowerPoint for more details.

- Budget Town Hall happened in the first week of December. Themes for what the community would like us to fund are summarized in the PowerPoint. Some of these requests are already being addressed through ARPA funded programs!
- Washington County got over 100 million in federal funding to address COVID response needs in our community. The first bucket of funding is targeted at public health. See details here: https://www.co.washington.or.us/Support_Services/Finance/GrantManagement/board-adopts-recovery-package-investment-plan.cfm
- ARPA Tranche 2 will have framework possibly decided in Spring of 2022
- Public Health requires more expansive infrastructure to address our needs. Looking at those needs now to propose paths forward supported by ARPA funding.
- Marie will plan on bringing specific asks to the PHAC along with additional updates in February
- FY 22-23 runs 7/1/2022 – 6/30/2023
- Public Health is a general fund budget; we have fees, grants, and other revenue streams but we also have general fund subsidies for some of our programs
- PH Modernization has a mechanism that allows the state to request data to inform about how the County is investing in public health which is used in their formula for funding allocation; we're currently working on pulling these numbers for FY20-21

Thoughts: Distributing budget up front at infancy so community members are supported through their whole life, instead of reactive spending to address problems as they arise. We should be funding preventive measures.

Membership Updates

PHAC members received an update on departing and incoming members.

- This is Tom Engle's last meeting as an official member! Tom has been with the PHAC since its inception in 2014. Thank you for your service Tom, and we hope to see you continue to join in as a non-voting member of the community!
- Board recruitment was active October – November 2021.
- Our new member will be Afam Okoye, joining us in February. Afam works at OHSU as a Research Associate Professor
- Larysa Thomas and Rachel Arnold will be reappointed to their first full term and Robin Bousquet to a second term.

Closing

Next meeting February 8th via Zoom.