

# Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)

## Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2019



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



**ATTENDING:** David Eppelsheimer, Larry Boxman, Leticia Vitela, Rachel Schutz, Tom Engle, Lindsay Verber, Kristine Rabii, Karen Reynolds, Nicole Bowles, Pam Treece

**ABSENT:** Sebastian Bannister Lawler, Eileen Derr, Robin Bousquet, Dick Stenson

**STAFF:** Kathleen Johnson, Nike Nuevenheim, Dr. Christina Baumann, Alexandra Weinstein

### Welcome

Leticia called the meeting to order with introductions and ice breaker. Welcome!

### PHAC Updates

- Leticia Vitale shared that the Vision Action Network is having a fundraiser on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, the program begins at 7pm.
- Nicole Bowles shared that the Cannabis Policy Oversight team will be issuing a RFP for projects helping people previously impacted by cannabis prohibition.
- Lindsay Verber shared that OHA is looking for organizations that can refer clients to take the CHIME IN survey.
- David Eppelsheimer shared that he is part of a community group exploring the establishment of a queer resource center. There will be a community meeting at Brookwood Library on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Larry Boxman shared that Metro West's program that help treat people with chronic diseases in their home is looking to expand with the participation of Providence Health Plan.
- Robin Bousquet shared that she is planning a PEAK Program Sports Summit and is looking for a "sports venue".

### Ethics Deliberation

The PHAC deliberated the ethical implications of removing non-medical exemptions from state immunization laws.

- Discussion-
  - What are the risk and harms of concern?
    - Risk of child not receiving vaccination by choice of parent vs. the risk of child that cannot receive vaccination
    - Risk of requiring someone to put something in their body that does not want to
    - Risk of not achieving herd immunity, and consequences for those that immunocompromised
    - Costs of outbreaks when they occur, for example \$1.5million for Clark County
    - Low-income parents ability to pay for and access immunizations (i.e. time off work required for appointments, cost, flexibility of work).

- To help address some of these issues, the VFC program exists to help alleviate those pressures
- Public Health Goals?
  - Promoting community health
  - Preventing disease
  - Protecting the safety of public and common spaces
- Is there legal authority and what is the legal precedent?
  - How is this different or the same as state laws on seat belt wearing and car seats?
  - It is important that we look at case studies and determine possible actions in the event of an emergency to control the disease.
- Stakeholders?
  - Children
  - Parents
  - Medical practitioners
  - Community
  - Public Health
  - Immunocompromised
  - Religious organizations
- Conclusions
  - PHAC felt this was the right course of action to achieve public health benefit.

Minutes taken by