

**Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)**  
 Tuesday, February 9, 2021 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
 Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7082128355>  
 Meeting ID: 708 212 8355  
 Phone: (253) 215-8782  
[www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac.cfm](http://www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac.cfm)



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



AGENDA ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOMES	LEAD	TIME
Welcome	Welcome, introductions, review agenda, approve minutes from September meeting	Alex Coleman	5:30
Equity Centered COVID Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHAC members receive an update on the County's equity work done within the Emergency Operations Center</li> </ul>	Phyusin Myint and Genevieve Ellis	5:50
COVID-19 Vaccine Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHAC members receive an update on vaccine planning and rollout</li> </ul>	Adrienne Donner and Carrie Beck	6:15
COVID-19 Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHAC members receive an update on the current situation in Washington County</li> </ul>	Tricia Mortell	6:40
Legislation and Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHAC members receive an update on budget planning process and legislative session</li> </ul>	Tricia Mortell	7:00
Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PHAC members will vote for a new chair and vice-chair for the Council</li> </ul>	Alex Coleman	7:15
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community members can ask questions or provide comment during this time</li> </ul>	Tricia Mortell and Alex Coleman	7:20
Closing		Alex Coleman	7:25

**Next Meeting:** March 9, 2021

**Future PHAC Meetings:**

- April 13, 2021
- May 11, 2021

**Future Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Subcommittee Meetings**

*If you are interested in attending any of these meetings, please email [vivianna\\_lindley@co.washington.or.us](mailto:vivianna_lindley@co.washington.or.us)*

<p><b>Access to Care Committee</b>            Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>            9:00 – 10:00            This meeting will be held via ZOOM.            For information on accessing this meeting please contact Alicia (<a href="mailto:alicia_lee@co.washington.or.us">alicia_lee@co.washington.or.us</a>)</p>	<p><b>Substance Use Prevention Collaborative</b>            This group meets quarterly, with their next meeting scheduled for March</p>	<p><b>Suicide Prevention Council</b>            This group meets quarterly, with their next meeting scheduled for April</p>
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Electronic information: [www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac-meetings.cfm](http://www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac-meetings.cfm)

For assistance on the evening of the meeting contact:

Alex Coleman (971) 724-0089 or [alex\\_coleman@co.washington.or.us](mailto:alex_coleman@co.washington.or.us)

# Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)

## Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2021

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Prevent. Promote. Protect.



**ATTENDING:** Sonja Ackman, Tom Engle, David Eppelsheimer, Pam Treece, Robin Bousquet, Jennifer McElravey, Leticia Vitela, Eileen Derr, Dick Stenson, Larysa Thomas, Julie Scotland, Hemi Pariyani,

**ABSENT:** Shabba Woodley, Ann Marie Paulsen, Andrea Lara Silva, Nicole Bowles,

**STAFF:** Tricia Mortell, Alex Coleman, Vivianna Lindley, Megan McKibben, Bernardino De La Torre, Gwyn Ashcom

**GUEST PRESENTERS:** Carrie Beck, Adrienne Donner, Phyusin Myint, Genevieve Ellis

### Welcome

Alex started the meeting with introductions and an ice breaker.

### Approve January's Meeting Minutes

January's minutes were reviewed. David Eppelsheimer motioned to approve the minutes. Leticia Vitela seconded. All in favor and none opposed. The motion was passed.

### Equity Centered COVID Response

PHAC members received an update on the County's equity work done within the Emergency Operations Center. See PowerPoint for details.

- Washington County was one of the first counties in Oregon to establish an Emergency Operations Center for COVID-19
- Disproportional effects on communities of color not surprising: Decades of research support the fact that these communities face different obstacles
- EOC was functioning in a reactionary mode, wanted to become more proactive and assembled a team from HHS to address equity
- Had to narrow focus to four priorities to work within rapid response (priorities in PowerPoint)
- Conducted an equity assessment out of which the equity lens tool was made. The tool has four primary questions that guided decision making within the EOC
- Staff are currently working on evaluating data from the EOC to produce an impact report

### Q&A

**Q:** Have you thought of having a hotline for citizens who don't have internet or speak a language other than English and Spanish?

**A:** This need was identified in the EOC equity work. Efforts are being made to provide this option for all aspects of information, specifically focusing on the pandemic at this time.

**Q:** Is the County government monetarily supporting the work around equity?

**A:** The BOC is fully committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion work. There is an equity department with 5 full-time positions. HHS has a draft policy around community engagement

that will provide funding for community organizations to implement the equity work we are asking them to do. Washington County is supportive of funding for public health modernization to be spread not just to local government, but to tribal and community organizations. We have created a funding mechanism for our community health improvement plan and are constantly looking at how much of that funding can be used for community support in addition to county staffing. Children Youth and Families did a lot of work to find grants for community organizations that serve diverse bases.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Update**

PHAC members received an update on vaccine planning and rollout. See PowerPoint for more details.

- Under 10% of people receiving the vaccine are signing up for V-Safe. We will be pushing that at our clinics to get better data for moving forward
- Vaccine allocation for the Counties is limited and not enough to serve all the groups eligible on a large scale
- Hillsboro stadium transitioning to OHSU testing M-F and Hillsboro Medical Center taking over vaccine administration for that site
- The current mass vaccination sites include PDX, the Convention Center, and soon the Hillsboro Stadium
- Second dose planning has been a struggle. We are seeing this across the board. Before you leave your first vaccine appointment you are now signed up for your second dose
- Must continue to focus messaging on staying vigilant, we need to continue to use face coverings and take all precautions and preventions within the community

### **Q&A**

**Q:** Who are the medical staff at community-based sites?

**A:** Depends on who we are partnering with. Will change by event. Most will be Medical Reserve Corp volunteers, but partners will cause it to vary.

**Q:** How many doses of vaccine are we getting in Washington County per week/month? Is that number stable? Are we using it all as fast as possible?

**A:** We are allocating out vaccine before the delivery even lands. Next week will be a small allocation (1400 doses). The numbers are not consistent, we never know how much we are going to get. President Biden announced a 38% allocation is two weeks out.

**Q:** Is the same type of vaccine coming each week?

**A:** It is a mix.

**Q:** Are you looking into the types of supports seniors need to attend vaccine appointments?

**A:** We are finding many seniors do not have transportation to get to vaccine sites. We are working to provide transportation support for this need. And looking at more local locations and in-home administration possibilities.

**Q:** Are you utilizing ALERT?

**A:** Yes, it is a requirement for all vaccinators to enter their data within three days of administration.

**Q:** Have the medical conditions that qualify as high-risk narrowed?

**A:** It is a defined reference list on the OHA website. However, it only represents data that has been self-reported.

**Q:** Do we expect an uptick in the amount of vaccine that will be received in the next month or two with the increased development of vaccines?

**A:** We are hoping for that. Right now, we get a tentative amount mid-week for what is coming

on Monday and will know the amounts for the vaccine sites on Thursday or Friday. It is very short notice. If the amount increased suddenly, we would have the resources to handle that.

**Q:** How do we protect the people still waiting for vaccination?

**A:** We need to uplift throughout the community that we need to maintain social distancing, wearing masks, taking all precautions individually to keep from getting the vaccine. We expect these measures to be needed for the rest of this year at least.

**Q:** Are we hearing anything from school nurses that they will need more volunteers with in-person learning coming back?

**A:** OHA is supporting schools with Binax now rapid testing.

**Q:** Why do people who have been vaccinated still need to wear masks?

**A:** It is still not known if a vaccinated person could pass the virus to an unvaccinated person. A vaccinated person is protected themselves, but they still need to take precautions to protect those who are not vaccinated. \*\*Update – OHA has released information on individuals who have tested positive for COVID after receiving their full COVID vaccination series

(<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDHS/bulletins/2c1850c>)\*\*

### **COVID-19 Update**

PHAC members received an update on the current situation in Washington County

- Tri-County region (Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas) will be moving out of “extreme” risk to “high” risk on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. This will allow restrictions to lift somewhat. You can see the list of allowances under high-risk here: <https://coronavirus.oregon.gov/Pages/living-with-covid-19.aspx>
- Washington County will open its offices to walk-in appointments on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> after the holiday
- Goal for schools is to open in-person learning to the lower grades first once teachers are fully vaccinated

### **Legislation and Budget**

PHAC members receive an update on budget planning process and legislative session

- State legislative session has started
- Tricia testified in support of HB 5024: Public Health Modernization which seeks to invest \$68,875,348 during the 2021-2023 biennium to fund local public health authorities, the OHA Public Health Division, Tribal Health Authorities and Community-Based Organizations as they implement Public Health Modernization; it also allocates \$5 million to support Universally Offered Home Visiting (Family Connects) which was created in 2019 by SB 526

### **Elections**

PHAC members voted for a new chair and vice-chair for the Council.

- Thank you to Ann Marie Paulsen and David Eppelsheimer serving as chair and co-chair for the last year!
- Jennifer McElravey has volunteered to act as chair and Larysa Thomas has volunteered to act as co-chair
  - All were in favor of the appointments. Jennifer and Larysa were appointed as the new chair and co-chair and will be hosting the March meeting.

### **Closing**

Next Meeting will be March 9 via Zoom.