

# Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2024



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



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**ATTENDING:** Sonja Ackman, Lucia Benavides, Madhavi Bharadwaj, David Eppelsheimer, Ansley Fancher, Andrea Lara, Hemi Pariyani, Julie Scotland, Larysa Thomas, Annadiana Johnson

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Nafisa Fai, Afam Okoye, Annie Paulsen, Michelle Williams

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** Diana Feldstein

**STAFF PRESENTERS:** Alex Coleman, Erin Parrish, Kathleen Rees, Chris Keating, Catherine Desmarais, Nancy Griffith

**STAFF ATTENDING:** Marie Boman-Davis, Folu Adeniyi, Bethany Perkins (meeting minutes), Erin Jolly

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## WELCOME

Larysa Thomas opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions to those attending and Alex Coleman followed with a review of the agenda.

## APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The Council reviewed February meeting minutes. A question was raised about 3 and 5 % budget cuts for HHS, and clarification was added to the minutes. A question about Measure 110 funding was asked, and clarification was made that originally Washington County received 1.9 million over an 18-month contract ending December 2023. We have received the same budget for the next 18 months. Larysa made a motion to approve the February minutes with no changes, and Madhavi seconded the motion. David and Andrea abstained, none opposed, and members voted in favor. The motion was passed.

## PRESENTATIONS

### PUBLIC HEALTH 101: PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE, *Alex Coleman*

Members watched a [short video](#) on Public Health Surveillance, providing an overview of what surveillance is, the different types of public health surveillance, and what makes a good surveillance system.

### ORPHEUS DATA PRESENTATION, *Presented by Kathleen Rees, Epidemiology Supervisor and Catherine Desmarais, Epidemiologist; Research, Analytics, Informatics, and Data Program*

Kathleen Rees and Catherine Desmarais are Epidemiologists in public health's RAID program. They give an in-depth presentation on the kind of data we collect in Washington County Public Health. Public Health surveillance is defined as "The ongoing, systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health-related data essential to planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice, closely integrated with the timely dissemination of these data to those responsible for prevention and control" (slide 2).

ORPHEUS (Oregon Public Health Epidemiology User System) and DUDE (Directory of Useful Databases for Epidemiologists) are Washington County's surveillance systems. ORPHEUS holds data on many reportable infectious diseases.

## What are Reportable Diseases/Exposures?

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- [Immediately reportable diseases in Orpheus include:](#)
  - Anthrax
  - Botulism
  - Diphtheria
  - Ebola
  - Measles
  - Novel influenza
  - Poliomyelitis
  - Rabies
  - Rubella
  - Smallpox

## What are Reportable Diseases/Exposures?

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- [Reportable diseases within 24 hours in Orpheus include:](#)
  - Campylobacteriosis
  - Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales infection (CRE)
  - Escherichia coli
  - Gonorrhoea
  - Lead Poisoning
  - Mumps
  - Syphilis
  - Tuberculosis
  - And more...

In addition to the required notifiable data such as patient name, DOB, and diagnosis, Washington County collects REALD (race, ethnicity, language, and disability) and SOGI (sexual orientation, sex, and gender identity). The purpose of collecting this data is to understand inequities & address them. Data is deidentified and sent to the CDC. HIPAA does not apply to public health reporting. Communicable disease has always been a priority area for modernization.

ORPHEUS contains person level data, while DUDE contains outbreak level data and allows the tracking of outbreak trends.

*(Please refer to slide presentation entitled, "ORPHEUS 101\_03 12 2024" for detailed information.)*

### QUESTIONS

Q: Does Tableau offer a historical perspective to compare what we're seeing now to historical data?

A: Some of that information is there. 5 year averages are common.

Q: can you talk about small numbers?

A: working to standardize language around small numbers or really small counts. Concern being that the data can become identifiable. Doing a lot of work with data equity to think about other ways to represent those numbers.

Q: if number is too small (less than 10) do they get rolled up into a different category?

A: Yes. We don't adjust small numbers.

Q: Are the public tableau dashboards downloadable?

A: It depends, some are.

Q: Do you ever link data to education systems, census data, other community datasets like those?

A: Not for communicable disease data.

Q: how secure is it, you hear about data breaches.

A: It's secure as the user, has two factor authentication. Not the same data as data sets that get leaked. More likely to have an email mistake than a data breach. It's not high value data to hackers.








Q: How recent is the data? TB dashboard shows through 2020.

A: we have access to all recent data, it's just a matter of getting it into a dashboard.

**MEASURE 110 FOLLOW UP**, *Chris Keating, Public Health Nursing Supervisor, Erin Parrish Senior Program Coordinator and Nancy Griffith, Addictions Program Coordinator*

Measure 110 funds go to Public Health as well as Behavioral Health. Nancy Griffith presented on the work Behavioral Health does with substance use disorder resources through Measure 110. Behavioral health resource networks (BHRN) were developed in every county in Oregon with Measure 110 funds. In Washington County we have 19 different agencies that make up our BHRN.

# Services Included in the BHRN

-  Initial Screening for Substance Use Disorder services
-  Low Barrier SUD treatment
-  Peer Delivered services
-  Behavioral Health needs assessment
-  Supported Housing
-  Supported Employment
-  Harm Reduction

Impact of BHRN resources in Washington County

Service area	% Change in Client Count From Q1 to Q4	
Screening	▲	298%
Assessments	▲	114%
SUD Treatment	▲	143%
Peer Support Services	▲	205%
Harm Reduction	▲	148%
Housing Services	▲	296%
Supported Employment	▲	286%

Chris Keating and Erin Parrish presented on the services public health provides through Measure 110. These funds have allowed us to expand into the field through Needle Exchange and the High-Risk Clinic. We do a lot of work with community partners in harm reduction such as the HIV Alliance. Needle exchange includes safe injection supplies, overdose prevention education, Naloxone distribution, and referrals for other treatments and services. There are Peer Recovery Specialists who provide case management and a warm hand-off to treatment. One of the goals of harm reduction services such as needle exchange is to build trust with those we are serving that when they are ready for treatment, they have built relationships with trusted providers. There are multiple funding sources for this work including federal grants and health share in addition to Measure 110.

# Services Provided by Washington County Public Health (M110):

## Communicable Disease at Needle Exchange

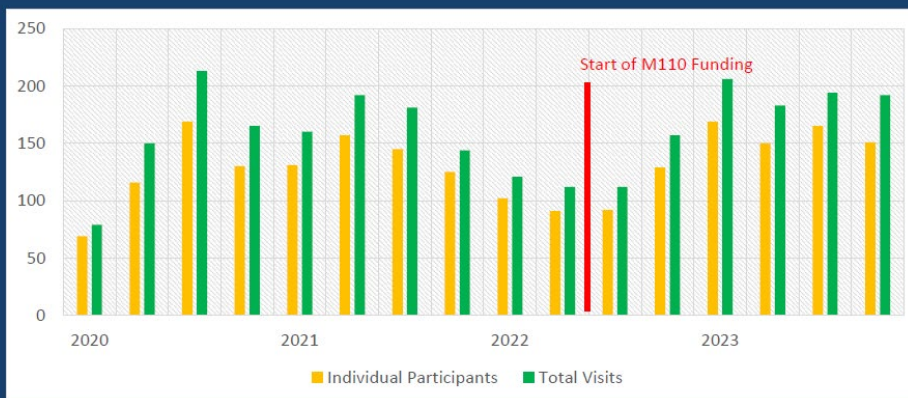
- Twice per week
- HIV Testing, prevention, and referrals at needle exchange
- Wound bandages and Wound kit distribution
- **Upcoming:** Hep C testing, Rapid HIV/Syphilis combo pilot

## Communicable Disease at High-Risk Clinic

- One day per week
- Full STI screening (HIV, syphilis, chlamydia, gonorrhea)
- Treatment for positive STI clients and exposed partners
- MPox vaccinations
- Access to immediate addiction referral services

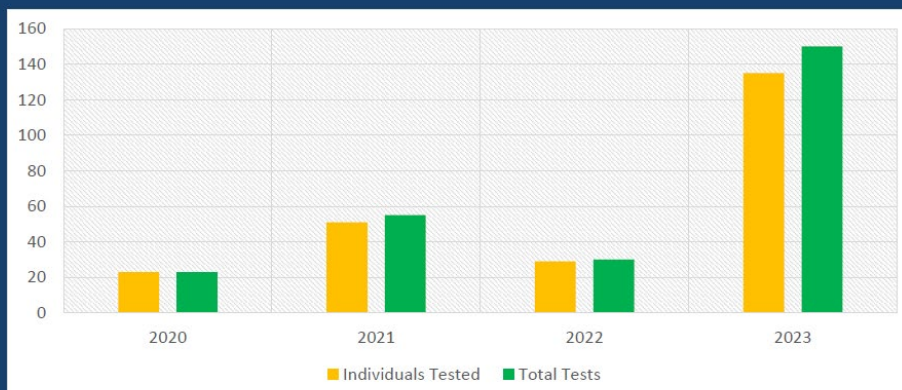
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# Syringe Exchange Clients Served



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## Harm Reduction Testing (M110) Clients Served



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For more information, see presentations entitled “M110 BHRN Presentation\_3 12 2024” and “M110 Harm Reduction Services\_03 12 2024”

### **UPDATES AND REMINDERS:**

- FY 2024-2025 budget updates. HHS Director Mjere Simantel successfully presented the budget. We are waiting to see which cuts will be accepted.
- Volunteer appreciation event April 25
- Chair and vice chair elections will be pushed to the April meeting due to time restraints.
- Marie mentioned that there would be another funding agenda item going before the Board that we would also like PHAC support for. Alex will send an email to the group with information.
- Public Health Week April 1-7. We are looking for support from PHAC on PH Week Proclamation. We are also looking for volunteers to help read proclamation. Let Alex Coleman know by 3/22 if you are interested. This could be done in person or virtual.
  - We are bringing back Public Health awards, Alex will send out the nomination form.
  - Community event on Friday April 5 from 10-12

PHAC members were asked to provide support for the Board agenda item proclaiming April 1-7, 2024 as National Public Health Week in Washington County. Members were given time to discuss and ask questions before voting.

### ***PHAC member statement:***

Does the PHAC support the Board of County Commissioners in proclaiming April 1-7 as National Public Health week?

David made a motion that the Council support the statement above, and Larysa seconded the motion. None opposed, none abstained, and all members voted in favor. The motion was passed.

### **MEMBER UPDATES / COMMENTS:**

PHAC members had the opportunity to ask questions, or to provide comments on topic outside the agenda items.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Community members had the opportunity to ask questions or provide comments on topics outside the agenda items. No comments were made.

### **ADDITIONAL REMARKS**

None

### **CLOSING**

**The next PHAC meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9, 2024.** Larysa closed out the meeting – thank you!

As always, we welcome input from PHAC members via our [Feedback Survey](#).

### **ADDENDUM**

There was a request to get support from the PHAC on a Board agenda item to receive funding from HealthShare for 2024. Since the request came outside of scheduled meeting a formal vote could not occur. Instead, an email was sent to the group (see below) outlining the situation and request, and members were provided with an opportunity to raise concerns. As no concerns were raised the following language was provided for inclusion on the agenda item:

“Although no formal vote was taken, the Public Health Advisory Council was provided an opportunity to weigh in on this issue and no concerns were raised.”

**From:** [Alex Coleman](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Follow Up to March PHAC Meeting and Support for Board Agenda Item  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 13, 2024 10:33:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

Good morning,

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us last night, it was great connecting with all of you. I have a couple of items to follow up on from last night, and then a request from Marie to get support for a Board Agenda Item.

**Follow Up**

As I mentioned last night, the County's annual volunteer appreciation event will be held on Thursday, April 25 at 5:30. There will be food, entertainment, raffle prizes and an opportunity to hear appreciation from County leaders for your support of our organization. Please [RSVP by Thursday, April 18](#) if you think you'll be able to attend. You can sign up through this [link](#).

Thank you again for voting to support having the Board proclaim April 1-7, 2024 as National Public Health Week here in Washington County. It's great to be able to continue this tradition with your support. We are bringing back our Public Health Recognition Awards this year. This an opportunity to recognize individuals, groups, or organizations for their contribution to public health. We're inviting community members to submit their nominations [by next Wednesday, March 20](#) using this [nomination form](#). We encourage you to share this information with your networks we love getting hear about the great work happening in the community to support public health.

Lastly, please save the date for our 2024 Public Health Week Celebration and Awards Event. This in-person event will provide community partners and opportunity to learn about public health programs, network with staff and other partner organizations, and share your insights to inform our Community Health Improvement Plan process. We will be sending out the Eventbrite in the next week for folks to register to attend.

2024 Public Health Week Celebration and Awards Event  
Friday, April 5, 10am – 12pm  
Washington Street Conference Center (102 SW Washington St, Hillsboro, 97124)  
Schedule:  
10 – 10:30 am – Welcome, coffee and snacks, networking and connecting  
10:30 – 11:15 am – Awards ceremony and program  
11:15 – 12 pm – Provide input to inform the CHIP process

**Volunteer Opportunities**

We do have a couple of volunteer opportunities related to public health week. We are looking for

one (1) volunteer who would be interested in reading the Public Health Week Proclamation at the Board meeting on Tuesday, April 2. The Board meeting will begin around 10:30 and you can join either in-person or via Zoom. We would expect to be finished with the proclamation by 11:15.

We are also looking for 2-3 volunteers to help score Public Health Recognition Award nominations. Volunteers would be expected to review nominations between March 21 and March 26, and participate in a 30 minute meeting to discuss scores and finalize winners (meeting date and time TBD).

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please let me know by [Wednesday, March 20](#).

**Request for Support**

As Marie mentioned last night, the Public Health Division will be requesting that the Board approve an agreement to receive funding from HealthShare for 2024. We would like to you to review the policy statement below and let us know by [Friday, March 15](#) if you any concerns about the agreement, or questions you would like us to follow up on at our meeting in April. We will include time on the agenda for next month to follow up on this item.

*Background*

HealthShare of Oregon is a Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) that serves Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. They bring together health plans, providers, and community health resources so members can access the care they need to be well. In addition coordinating care and resources for members, HealthShare also works with community partners in health care, education, housing, transportation, and social services to broaden health access and opportunity. HealthShare provides funding to Washington County Public Health (WCPH) to sustain funding for community services. This funding supports program and service delivery which may include, implementation of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), prevention strategies (e.g., community, harm reduction, regional perinatal continuum of care), and direct care and case management services (e.g., tuberculosis).

*Summary*

WCPH has held an agreement with HealthShare since its inception in 2012. The most recent agreement with HealthShare expired on December 31, 2023. WCPH and HealthShare have reached an agreement for funding for 2024. The maximum amount of funding that can be received under this agreement is \$1,000,000.

*Requested Board Action*

Authorize the revenue agreement with HealthShare of Oregon for the term of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9 and I will be sending out the calendar invite and agenda in the next few weeks. Please reach out if you have any questions in the meantime.