

Collaborative on Health and the Environment-Washington (CHE-WA)
Children's Environmental Health Working Group - Meeting Notes
November 12, 2009 9:30-11:30
Location: Canal Place, 130 Nickerson Ave.

(Attendance list at end)

Current Snapshot of Children's Environmental Health Activities in our region

Michael Bergman (Department of Ecology)

- Most interested in day cares and schools
- New work plan in progress

Heather Trim People for Puget Sound

- Supporting baby bottle bill
- Pharm take back
- Legislative work

Joanne Peradin (Children's Environmental Health Network www.cehn.org)

- Healthy Environment
- Korean orphan assessment
- Environmental Health Hazards around child cares and at home
<http://www.cehn.org/cehn/education/childcare.htm> . Done already in CA, GA, Texas, WA D.C.
Seeking new partners. Merging with Oregon Environmental Council's Eco-healthy program.

Jeff Ketchel (Public Health, Seattle & King County)

- With Nicole, is developing a strategic plan for built environment and land uses
- \$20 million AARA grant
- Applying for an obesity grant

Nancy Bernard (Washington Department of Health)

- K-12 health and safety guide being updated
- Board of Health adopted a draft rule- but that was suspended because of budget

Margo Young (EPA Region 10)

- Twenty people from EPA attended NW Children's Environmental Health Forum She's now being invited to all THEIR meetings
- Regional Mercury strategy is getting a grad student on Mercury disposal
- (Michael?) submitted another grad student proposal—GIS-based kids health assessment
- Shared a "Toxic Matters" brochure. The following people were interested in discussing ways to use it or adapt it and get it into doctor offices: Gail , Nicole, Aileen, Erica, Steve, Cynthia, Jeanne

Steve Gilbert (Institute of Neurotoxicology and Neurological Disorders)

- Plans to increase the focus on children's health on INND's website. For example, have a section entering the question, "what are the health effects of radiation on children?"
- Is there interest in a Leadopedia?

Erica Finsness (UW- Institute for Risk Analysis and Risk Communication)

- Children's Environmental Health risks research Center will continue—refunded through 2015
- This group looks at organophosphate pesticides exposure to farm workers in the Yakima area.

Aileen Gagney (American Lung Association)

- 98 percent behavior change documented after the Master Home Environmentalists' visits
- Have an asthma outreach person

- Landlord-Tenant stuff going great
- Mold is still the biggest hurdle she faces. It is a tough one to deal with. You must find clear, visual leakage for code enforcement.

Jeanne Johnson (Environmental Coalition of South Seattle)

- Looking at funding for next year
- CAMP has grants available to help low income households in heating homes
- Seattle-King County Public Health is doing an asthma outreach program with the Housing Authority in Highline area.

Caitlyn Steiner (American Lung Association)

- Working on a resource guide for heating programs.
- Will send info to us so it can go on the CHE-WA website

Nicole Thomson (Public Health, Seattle & King County)

- Under spending her grant
- Setting up five lead screenings before March 2010
- A second elevated lead case has shown up in Yesler Terrace—perhaps a community screening is coming.
- Hopes to work with Seattle Headstart centers for lead screening.
- Submitted a grant for ongoing lead screening
- Looking to do screenings in-school to increase participation.
- Suggests Laura Hutchison, from Child Profile, as a contact—will be added to our mailing list

Russ Clausen (EPA Region 10)

- Will send us a file on lead training
- Nicole—there is very little training going on. Only two firms certified as trainers. The contractors out there don't know about the new rule.
- There is an opt-out provision—pre-'78, no child under six and no pregnant women. This opt-out provision will probably disappear by April 7th, due to a settlement.
- EPA will be advertising program nationally, website will be included; no firm date yet.

Dennis Weaver (Change Your Food, Change Your Life!)

- Environmental health seems to be focused on the health of the environment, not personal environmental health. He's trying to educate public on personal impacts.

Tracee Mayfield, (Public Health, Seattle & King County)

- Will be doing trainings for childcare providers
- Green Procurement training on December 1, 2009

Julia Berg (Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County)

- CHE meeting at Antioch on December 1st, featuring Endocrine disruptors discussion. Will be from 2-4:30
- Now will be working on outreach to the public sector
- We will have an increased web presence

Jeff Ketchel (Public Health, Seattle & King County)

- Will staff a call center regarding Howard Hansen Dam
- Jeff complained about us not having post-flood planning and so, predictably, was tasked with providing same.

Report out on the NW Children's Environmental Health Forum, 2009 - Margo Young

- Was the attendee spread what the planning committee was hoping for? Yes.

- We provided 20 scholarships, mostly to students.
- Typical comment, “Wow, I learned so much!”
- Gail will provide “Cliff notes from the Forum.” Featuring the main points the speakers made.
- “The woman from Alaska was amazing!”
- Julia—Forum web page is being updated to include speaker PowerPoint presentations. Video is being edited for the web.
- Steve—would be nice to have a one page summary and have it be linked to website.
- Jeff—Evaluations are being compiled: Paper and about 60-70 personal interviews. Survey Monkey needs 200 responses to be statistically valid. All attendees should take the survey, even if they were on the planning committee. There will be a follow-up report in January.

What did we learn - Margo Young

- Format worked.
- Logistics were great.
- Venue worked well.
- Food (organic) made a HUGE difference; chocolate was well received.
- Question screening worked.
- Reconsider how to do the Action Agenda—creating a document there was tough.
- Too many planning meetings—need a smaller core committee.
- **NEED A CONFERENCE COORDINATOR!!**
- Money—Is there a decision to do this next time? The recommendation is not to do the Forum again until 2011.
- Conference cost roughly \$48K, exclusive of in-kind contributions.

Attendance list:

Aileen Gagney	American Lung Association of Washington
Caitlyn Steiner	American Lung Association of Washington
Cynthia Callahan	Mom
Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food-Change Your Life!
Erica Finsness	UW- Institute for Risk Analysis and Risk Communication
Gail Gensler	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Heather Trim	People for Puget Sound (phone)
Henry Draper (note taker)	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Jeanne Johnson	Environmental Coalition of South Seattle
Jefferson Ketchel	Public Health- Seattle & King County
Joanne Perodin	Children's Environmental Health Network
Julia Berg (facilitator)	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Margo Young	EPA Region 10
Michael Bergman	Department of Ecology (phone)
Nancy Bernard	Washington State Department of Health (phone)
Nicole Thomsen	Public Health-Seattle & King County
Russ Clausen	EPA Region 10
Steven Gilbert	Institute for Neurotoxicity and Neurological Disorders