

Children's Environmental Health Working Group
Collaborative on Health and the Environment – WA (CHE-WA)
Meeting Notes

Thursday, February 13, 2014

9:30AM – 11:30AM

Meeting location: UW DEOHS, 4225 Roosevelt Ave N.E. Seattle, WA

Our mission is to work collaboratively with diverse groups to eliminate children's harmful environmental exposures in the Puget Sound region and beyond during their most critical developmental years: preconception to age 8.

Attendees in-person

- Nancy Beaudet, UW PEHSU
- Nancy Bernard, WA Department of Health
- Katie Frevert, DEOHS, UW Superfund Research Program (HOST)
- Gail Gensler, Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County --LHWMP
- Steve Gilbert, INND
- Rachel Koller, Tribal Healthy Homes Network
- Will Perry Public Health-Seattle & King County – PHS& KC
- Frances Solomon, Evergreen State College
- Lorelei Walker, UW IPHG (Notes)
- Dennis Weaver, Change Your Food-Change Your Life®
- Margo Young, EPA R-10

Attendees by phone

- Aimee Boulanger, Environmental consultant
- Carolyn Gleason, HRSA
- Gretchen Stewart, EPA R-10
- Nicole Thomsen, PH-S&KC

Next Meeting

- March 13th 2014 @ Gail Gensler's location: 130 Nickerson St Ste 100. Seattle, WA 98109
- Topic for March 13: From 10 AM -11 AM the group will join the [CEH Call](#) with Drs. Phil Landrigan and Ruth Etzel discussing their new [Textbook of Children's Environmental Health](#). There will also be two 30-minute networking meeting discussion sessions prior to and after the call.

Hosting for the rest of the year:

- Meeting locations:
 - March: Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
 - April: Public Health- Seattle & King County. Topic: EMF
 - May: WA Dept. of Health in Kent. Topic: Biomonitoring
 - June: At EPA (?)
 - July/August: No meetings
 - September: UW Center for Ecogenetics

- October: Public Health- Seattle & King County
- Nov: University of WA – location TBD. Topic: Jet noise pollution on Whidbey
- Dec: University of WA – location TBD. Topic: Epigenetics, BPA, and the importance of perinatal nutrition
- Margo offered to find a space if needed.
- Suggested speakers:
 - Denise Franks – Healthy cleaning at home and work. Psychology of fragrance use and cleaning behaviors. Spoke at recent conference and could possible present.
 - Ted Schettler – Book: The Ecology of Breast Cancer

Follow-up steps after the Forum

Remember – *We are a volunteer organization. Feel OK about what you can give.*

1. **Update the CEH-WA Website:** <http://washington.chenw.org/CEHgroup.html> (Gail)
 - Website is now fully updated. This includes Forum details and the other pages.
 - The light blue box calls out the paper handouts from the forum including the speakers, agenda, and resource guide.
 - Presentations are loaded.
 - Participant feedback quotes now included
 - Video links are available. Program was broken into 4 videos that are long. The slides are available separately for your convenience.
 - Sponsor list is available and sponsors might be interested in presenting too.
 - On the right of the website page the CHE-WA publicity fliers are available for download, both the flier designed for print and for electronic sharing. Please share and market widely.
 - At top there is the “Upcoming Meeting Information”
 - From here the green box contains information on the current meeting schedule.
 - Old notes, past presentations, and past forum information is available.
 - Katie = Can this be nominated for a website award? A “Webbie?” Due to the large resource, accessibility, and layout, this is a great resource. She will research.
 - Margo = Suggests taking the email announcement about the forum follow up and adjusting content for a wider audience to notify others of website resource. Margo and Gail will work together on this.
 - Margo = will review if there was a Facebook outlet to update the forum / website information on.
2. **Evaluation Forms** (Gail)

Tallied this week. Good feedback! A few naysayers but they were outliers. Main issue: Room too small; trouble seeing on the sides of the room. People left the conference thinking about how this knowledge directly impacts their work. Ask Gail if you want to see the feedback for marketing purposes.

2. **Create a manual on how to create a forum** (Gretchen with help from others)
 - Create a manual on the nuts and bolts of hosting this forum, so we don't have to reinvent the wheel on this when CHE-WA holds the Forum every other year.
 - **Need a better location.** If you know of a place to host 200-300 people that allows us to choose catering, has parking, is centrally located – Please let us know!

3. **Make a CEH traveling training**
 - Margo – Traveling Training question – Who is audience? Sounds like that is not currently identified but possibly the WIC folks. Primary focus was community based organizations.
 - Need marketing. Right now only doing if asked. To do more need in house support.
 - Gail will reach out to Will to add the training to the SKCPH Resource list.
 - Nicole will add traveling training to local hazard waste list.
 - Gail sent email follow up asking if partners / participants would like the Children's Environmental Training team to travel and present. To date no one has emailed about this opportunity.

4. **Create a CEH table top exhibit** to be checked out by community based organizations. (Gail)

5. **Update Website and Email follow up** from forum (Gail)
Completed. Gail will send emails once quarterly.

6. **Build capacity with nurses** (Gail and Karen Bowman)
 - About 40 nurses attended the forum. Want to keep momentum going with the nurses. Gail and Karen Bowman will meet at end of month to determine best way to build capacity.
 - Katie – there is a continuing education program at UW DEOHS. This might have opportunities for the nurses CE.
 - Discussion about credit requirements for nurses and doctors. Katie will check qualifications.
 - FYI – ATSDR will provide CME credit at no charge but unknown if this applies to nurses. There are directions for UW Medical CME process for physician trainings.

7. **Host a film screening of "Unacceptable Levels"?**
 - Discussion in December about bringing film to Seattle. Need to reconnect with producers as to what size audience and what they are willing to partner on.
 - Waiting for feedback as to what that type outreach they have in mind post holidays. Amy suggests that the audience requirements might have changed now that film is more readily available.
 - Lorelei suggested thinking about how "Toxic Hotseat" was screened at the SIFF (Seattle International Film Festival) as they held a 1 time viewing to their audience and outsiders. Filled theater and had panel discussion with producers and WA Toxics

Coalition, plus Jessie from King 5 news as moderator. Great turnout.

8. **WA State Environmental Health Association Annual Educational Conference**, May 11th and 12th
 - a. CHE-WA is confirmed to present CEH at this conference
(Who will work on this= Steve Gilbert, Holly Davis, Ailene Gagney, Nicole Thomsen....).
 - b. Non-traditional audience such as Public Health Nurses – great outreach opportunity
 - i. Recommendation: Connect with Heather Devine, Grant County’s new part-time children’s environmental health employee. Note: Grant County is involved with the National Children’s Study.

Updates from Group Members

1. Nancy Beaudet: UW PEHSU Research Matters Conference
 - a. 3/5/14 at UW Tower from 8:30a-12:30p; comfortable location. Website: <http://depts.washington.edu/pehsu/conference>
 - b. Speakers on pediatric asthma in Yakama Valley; biomarkers, health and stress; genomic challenges; pesticide, BPA, and phthalate exposures in WA state; biomonitoring of arsenic in pregnancy and children’s health; redesigning school lunch competition and results
 - c. Not recording at this time but participants at EPA have asked for it. Brief discussion with Lorelei about room abilities, using UW Tegrety as it has hosting abilities, or a simple recording and MS office live interface. Lorelei will email Nancy.
2. Nancy Beaudet: Whidbey island Touch and Go Jet noise effect on the health of children
 - a. Nancy will present on results in the fall and paper being drafted for publication. Will circulate once completed – Margo will circulate to NEPA.
 - b. ~160 hours on the project. The community hired a recent graduate student to support work.
 - c. High levels are related to disease outcomes.
 - d. State noise law is currently housed in Ecology. Department of Ecology is taking about eliminating this law because they are not involved in this area. This would be problematic since few communities have noise level limits.
3. Nancy Beaudet: About 250 PEHSU consultations a year. In the last few months there has been an uptick in exposure concerns. Unknown if this is a trend or a blip. These involve physician interaction and health implications
 - a. Includes mold, superfund sites, indoor air standard in schools, insulation, mercury in schools, carpet off gassing, pesticide exposure, lead bullets in meat, blood lead levels, etc.
 - b. Pesticide case (household stripe) was reported and written up by Catherine Karr as it included measuring levels with associated facial tick.
 - i. FYI – DOH published a pesticide exposure report that was forwarded to Catherine. Covers pesticide illness from strips and bombs. Sourced from MMWR. This is an abuse issue in many households.
4. Dennis Weaver – Bringing back on limited basis: “Personally Guided Organic Good Food Shopping Tours”

- a. Personally guided grocery tours for groups up to 6 people at store of your choice in your location – even outside of Seattle.
 - b. Send a note to Dennis if you are interested.
5. Rachel Koller – Went to Olympia to testify on the Toxic Free Kids Act with WA Toxics Coalition
 - a. Denied the opportunity to testify though three others did testify. Chair of the Senate not helpful / appeared anti regulation. Bipartisan bill in the House was gutted in the Senate where the ban was limited to 2 flame retardants and the alternative assessment was cut. Not sure where things stand.
 - b. Concern about the “Toxic Treadmill” idea of replacing one problematic chemical with another. For example – Rachel was part of study identifying flame retardants in two couches made post 2005. No PBDEs found but did find Firemaster 550 (next on the ban list) and another flame retardant that is new – took 6 months to figure out what it was.
 - c. Fran asked if the Senate will get it together, answer is unknown
 - d. Can follow this online – WA State bill info can read reports and TVW recordings.
 - i. TVW is a great resource (WA version of CSPAN). This is accessible both live and via archives. Executive sessions are not recorded. <http://www.tvw.org/>
6. Will Perry – Young Children’s Team. Has 2 years of experience now on lead exposure.
 - a. Shared new brochure to market his team’s “Healthier and Toxic-Free Homes” outreach
 - i. Building team and marketing services
 - ii. Building Promotoria network for in-home educational settings
 - iii. Have training kits on lead and bed bugs
 - b. Partners
 - i. Seattle building code enforcers
 - ii. Refugee Woman’s Alliance
 - c. Community outreach project
 - i. Involving the community in early stages of planning (CBPR model). This is complex but assists in trying to get at training and messaging.
 - ii. Seeing case load increase but need matching resources in-house
 - d. Question – When you get an inquiry where do you refer to?
 - i. Will’s team grew out of lead work. Beginning to discuss mercury and pesticides but Ailene Gagny might be better equipped to handle mold and asthma.
 - ii. Overlapping interests between groups. Will’s group needs more resources.
 - iii. Nancy’s group has some resources but not well equipped.
 - iv. Pierce Co has investigated if the resident is pregnant
 - v. Resources for Yakama Valley farm workers
 - vi. WA Asthma initiative has resources
 - vii. Few resources for in-home resources / DOH has mold packet and Ailene sends a self-assessment list as part of her deliverables
 - viii. Do not have mechanism in-state for housing but do for schools
 - ix. EPA has a lead investigation person to do some site visits. Those sources are not well marketed.
 - e. Would like Emmanuel Rivera to add their brochure to LHWMP’s list of community resources.
7. Fran Solomon – Taught a training at Bastyr College on Feb. 1st. In Vancouver next week.

- a. Two shows coming up in partnership with Dennis: 10a and 6p on 4/22.
8. Margo – Asked to present to board of directors in her building on concerns regarding uses of fragrances.
 - a. Her request: #1 – is another member of CEH-WA better equipped to give presentation?
 - b. #2 – Does anyone have a slide set or summary of health problem?
 - i. Nancy B has some slides.
 - ii. Fragrance-free policy for schools. EPA does not have a policy. CDC has an extensive policy. Check American lung assoc. Public Health has policy. Enforcement is usually the problem but need policy to start.
 - iii. Sandra Steinberger might have slides
9. Lorelei- Her work is focusing on the epigenetic effects of toxic exposures. If you have an exposure of interest that you would like more information regarding the known epigenetic effects (potentially transgenerational effects from perinatal exposure), please email her.
 - a. Dennis and Lorelei will talk more about pesticides.
10. Gail – Millie Piazza in Ecology mentioned grant cycle for NW network on funding projects on social justice and community organizing as a tool for community justice. March 17th is '1st grant cycle. Call 206.624.4081 or email to info@socialjusticefund.org
11. Steve Gilbert – June 28th is Neurobehavioral Network meeting in Bellevue and is taking abstracts.
 - a. Lorelei will send hers on epigenetic video / outreach regarding BPA exposure and the importance of nutrition
 - b. Department of Ecology is requiring a resubmission for reimbursement and will not cover flowers.
12. Nancy Bernard – Updating indoor air quality for schools. Next is asthma control for schools. Mold updates on DOH website.
 - a. CEFPT – putting together proposal to attend
 - b. Indoor air quality – Asthma workshops but unknown how and when.
 - c. Shared stories about mercury being used in science class, and about a spill on a bus after Hg was brought from home. Both investigated. Sent to listserve.
13. Katie – Zoobiquity 4 Conference in Seattle on human animal interactions. 11/8/14.
Osha.washington.edu

Presentation: Katie Frevert, Program Manager for the University of WA's Superfund Program, presented about her program. Find the PPT on the CHE-WA website.

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