

**Collaborative on Health and the Environment-Washington (CHE-WA)**  
**Children's Environmental Health Working Group - Meeting Notes**  
**May 8, 2008 9:30-11:30**  
**Location: King County Hazardous Waste Program Office**

(Attendance list at very end)

**Mission and goals discussion—group decisions**

1. Confirmed a working mission and goals statement. See attached document.
  - Made mission statements broad in order to help include more people.
  - Changed title to “Mission and Goals Statement 2008-2009”. Adding the date makes this more of a working document.
  - Used language that says “eliminate” (vs. “minimize”) children’s harmful environmental exposures.
2. Agreed to send the document out to advocacy groups for feedback. Ask, “Is there anything in this language you can’t live with?”
3. Agreed to use consensus decision-making process. Defined consensus as “I live with this.”

**Report on working group accomplishments**

1. Micro-fiber cloths (Julia)

King County Local Hazwaste is distributing these cloths in outreach because they clean well without a need for toxic chemicals. Also, since part of our mission is to identify and avoid overlaps, they’re using an existing brochure printed by the Washington Department of Health to hand out with the microfiber cloths. An important feature of this brochure is that it is already translated to Spanish
2. Children’s Environmental Health conference (Gail)

Regional conference WILL happen in 2009.  
**Decision:** Planning committee will meet this month. **Members: Aileen, Aimee, Cedar, Gail, Heather, Jeff, Julia, Leena, Margo, Michelle, Rob, Steve**
3. Breastmilk [http://withinreachwa.org/files/BestStart\\_0.pdfbrochure](http://withinreachwa.org/files/BestStart_0.pdfbrochure) (Gail)

King County Local Hazwaste funded a reprint of this brochure since it supports our mission.
4. The Seattle Midwifery School (Gail)

They will have the help of the Pediatric Environmental Specialty Unit to supplement their curriculum with more information on environmental health concerns and the developing child.
5. Emerging science of pesticide effects (Dennis)  
**Decision: Dennis** is obtaining printed materials on the emerging science concerning the effects of pesticides and will share them with us
6. National Children’s Study  
**Decision: Margo and Michelle** agreed to be our local representatives to this Study

**Matrix showing who we are and what we do**

We still want to develop a way to show this visually. Ideas:

- Somehow group like interests
- Can Julia, Gail and Henry provide categories?

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## Next steps – other options for us

1. June 9-11: EPA Tri-regional Lead based paint conference in Las Vegas
2. August: Duwamish River Cleanup Fest. How might we participate?
  - Test children's blood levels? Jeff: SKC-PH bought a blood lead testing machine through a grant. Testing is 'almost a done deal.'
  - **Decision: Aileen and Jeff** will get together about blood level testing
  - Test toys?
  - Find a way to use Russ's Lead-based paint game?
  - **Decision: Julie** asked for a flier about the Duwamish event so she can send it to the Childcare Program
2. October. Children's Health Month
  - We should coordinate our efforts with what the state is working on.
  - That's now Lead. Millie and Steve are both working on the Chemical Action Plan.
  - Use lead to raise awareness about other chemicals.
  - Timely since EPA is now rewriting lead-in-air rules.
  - People/public still don't see lead as a problem
  - Can we publicize it? Do a media something in October?
    1. Note: October precedes the legislative session.
    2. Tom \_\_\_\_ (Green)?
    3. KUOW Green Tuesdays (Someone should ask Steve Gilbert.)
    4. Use the CHE-WA website?
  - **Decision:** The following people will work on a marketing plan/committee for October Events --- **Cynthia, Margo, Margaret, Miranda, Nicole, Sharon**
  - **Decision:** Henry will schedule the group's first meeting.
3. October 6-8. WA State Public Health Association Joint Conference on Health meeting in Yakima Participate? Steve plans to introduce a resolution there on Lead. Anyone else planning to poster? Or introduce other resolutions? Could we coordinate with other counties?
4. Oct. 23-25. WA Association for the Education of Young Children in Tacoma Nicole will present. King County Childcare will present. Snohomish County Childcare likely to present.
5. Can we get a website? What are the limits of our use of the CHE-WA website?
6. How about frightening people with messaging about the 27,000 chemicals that are bad for us?  
**Decision:** Group preferred the approach of a message that says: "I'm happy to learn this."
7. How do we get more TV? We've got to get on TV! How can we meet with/educate Jean Emerson?

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Attendance list:

Angela Delahoz	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Aileen Gagney (by phone)	American Lung Association
Cynthia Shurtleff	WA Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics
Dennis Weaver	Change Your Food-Change Your Life!
Gail Gensler	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Heather Trim (by phone)	People for Puget Sound
Henry Draper (notetaker)	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Jeff Ketchel	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Julia Berg(facilitator)	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
Julie Parker	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Lisa Carpenter	Snohomish Health District
Margo Young	US Environmental Protection Agency
Margaret Shield	Toxic Free Legacy
Michelle Gaither (by phone)	Pollution Prevention Resource Center
Michelle Sommargren	NW Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit
Millie Piazza (by phone)	WA State Department of Ecology
Miranda Taylor	Gesundheit Acupuncture and Herbs
Nicole De Frank	Snohomish Health District
Robin Kenepah	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Russ Clausen	EPA
Sharon Schoenfeld-Cohen	Public Health-Seattle and King County
Steven Gilbert	Institute for Neurotoxicity and Neurological Disorders
Thai Nguyen	Public Health-Seattle and King County