

**Buncombe County Department of Health
Board of Health Minutes
March 11, 2010**

The Buncombe County Board of Health held a meeting at the Department of Health Building on March 11, 2010.

Board Members Present: Winnie Ziegler, Richard Oliver, Bill McElrath, LC Ray, John Whitener, David McClain, Carol Peterson, Mike Goodson, Susanne Swanger and Gibbie Harris.

Staff Present: Julie Montanea, Jim Holland, Lisa Eby, Rich Munger, Amy Harmon, Erin Henderlight, Christina Papesh, Nelle Gregory, Sharon West, Dr. Yancey, Jennings Garry, and Terri Rogers.

Public Present: Alan Ditmore and **Dr. Anne Bayer**

Chair Winnie Ziegler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes of the February Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. McElrath to accept the minutes Mr. Oliver seconded the motion. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION:

Nurse Family Partnership – Jennings Garry

Ms. Garry is the Supervisor of the Nurse Family Partnership at the Buncombe County Department of Health, which is an evidence-based, community health program that was developed to help transform the lives of vulnerable first-time mothers living in poverty by improving prenatal care, quality of parenting and life prospects for mothers by partnering them with a registered nurse.

Referrals have totaled 185 since the beginning of this program in Buncombe County in and there are 80 actively enrolled mothers and 6 babies. The program is in its 5th month and it has 9 months to establish a full caseload of 100. Currently each nurse is carrying a caseload of 25 clients.

Nurses conduct in home visits and educate on Personal Health, Environmental Health, Life Course Development, Maternal Role, Family and Friends and Health and Human Services for the mother and child.

Sources of Nurse-Family Partnership Funding Medicaid include TANF/Public Welfare, Title V/Maternal and Child Health Initiatives, Child Abuse Prevention, Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Tobacco Settlement, United Way, State, City and County General Funds, Private Philanthropy and School Readiness. The education and support of the Nurse Family Partnership with a Mother and Child greatly reduces the length that a participant is dependent on Welfare and Food Stamps. Nurse-Family Partnership returns more than \$18,000 over and above program costs for each family enrolled. Savings accrue to government from decreased spending on health care, criminal justice, child protection, mental health, education and public assistance.

FY11 Draft Budget Review – Jim Holland

Mr. Holland shared a presentation with the Board about the Department of Health's FY11 Budget that needs to be reviewed and approved by the Board. Once that is decided upon the Mr. Holland will take it to the County Commissioners for approval. Mr. Holland asked the Board to take the spreadsheets

provided to them and review them before the meeting in April and that is when the budget will be discussed and any questions can be answered.

REPORTS

Health Director's Report: Gibbie Harris

Update on Strategic Planning

Strategies are currently being planned to work on the next steps for strategic planning for the Department of Health. As plans are made Ms. Harris will keep everyone informed.

Innovative Approaches Grant

The Department of Health has received a grant to assist with children with special health care needs. It will get training and technical assistance from UNCG. Innovative Approaches creates community-based and family-focused systems of care for families of children and youth with special health care needs. Together the Dept. of Health and UNCG will be working on an action plan.

Community Health Assessment

The Community Health Assessment is underway again which began in the fall of last year and will end this coming fall. Once the data has been collected then the issues will be identified and we will get a better understanding of how to address those issues. This work is being done by Health Promotions and being assisted by GIS mapping for the areas within the county.

Obesity Strategy Meeting

An Obesity Action Group is being put together to work on getting resources in the community to assist in this project. The first of this meeting will be on April 28th, Board Members are welcome to attend. Ms. Harris will share more information as it becomes available.

Monthly Financial Report: Jim Holland

Mr. Holland gave our financial report for this month. The expenditures of budget is 66 2/3% into the year, the salary YTD shows it being 69.94% at this time due to the severance and salaries paid to those that had positions end with Health due to the transition with WNCCHS which brought about the increase in that percent, you will see this slight increase in percentage until June when it evens out. The total of expenditures shows us at 1/2 for the year currently but the last half of the year will reflect expenditures without Adult and Child Primary Care.

The revenues through 2/28/10 are at 10,965,131. We should end up at 878 thousand under our revenue at the end of the year.

HR Recruitment & Retention: Lisa Eby

Ms. Eby shared the HR report for Health. She mentioned that a few months back she changed the stability factor on her scale. She did mention that we are currently showing vacancies of 9, and two of those are retirements that are not being filled as they were held over from the transition. The employees who left are all placed in positions either at the county or at WNCCHS, except for 2; one of those was to retire and the other employee chose to go back to school to further their education.

Mr. Ray commented on how well things turned out for the staff after the transition, that in the beginning talks of this move, it seemed grim for staff and the County has done a great job at making sure people were taken care of.

Ms. Harris also commented on how much the staff is committed to their jobs and to Public Health.

Performance Analysis Reviews: Julie Montanea

Ms. Montanea shared information regarding the Clinical Services area with a number of 65 new Family Planning patients for January which is slightly lower than the yearly average in FY09. In the Support Services area, Environmental Health has had 100% compliance for 2 quarters in a row for their inspections of restaurants.

Behavioral Health Services: Rich Munger

Mr. Munger gave a presentation on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Pretreatment for Jail Detainees. An average of 492 detainees receive substance abuse pretreatment annually. Pretreatment services prevented 738 arrests. The average length stay in jail is 9 days. Pretreatment services saved 6,642 jail days or 18 annual beds, the average cost of an arrest is \$2,159. This ultimately can reduce infrastructure or you can save the costs of increasing services.

An Average of 330 detainees receives mental health pretreatment annually these pretreatment services prevented 248 arrests. An average length stay in jail = 9 days which saved 2,232 jail days or 6 annual beds.

Ms. Ziegler, Chair asked if there were any objections to move the Public Comment section ahead on the agenda. No objections were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Alan Ditmore, a resident of Buncombe County had some concerns relating to family planning and in his opinion it is an investment that is higher rated than immunizations. He feels that the Dept of Health should invest more into family planning and prenatal services. In his comments he felt that other government agencies do not recognize the savings in those programs.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS Ms. Peterson shared with the Board of Health some information she learned and items of news from a meeting she attended as a County Commissioner in Raleigh recently. She first stated how proud she was of what efforts that Buncombe County has been doing with the health issues-partnerships and comprehensive health plans that have been in the works for years. North Carolina is moving towards prevention and wellness rather than sick care. The state is looking at expanding the Child Health Insurance Program.

Across the USA alone 75% of residents are getting treatment for health issues while only 25% are doing preventative care. This year 97 million people received the H1N1 vaccine and 100 million received the seasonal flu shots in America. The nation is looking at more recruitment of health care workers and the change starts at the local level.

Ms. Ziegler shared with the Board that she had a previous conversation with Mr. McElrath about continuing on the Board of Health for a 3rd term and that he has agreed to continue.

Ms. Ziegler also shared with the Board that she will be stepping down as Chair of the Board. She will remain a board member and stay active. Her employment is really consuming most of her time and with more work on her plate coming, she felt as if she would not be able to commit the time needed as Chair.

Ms. Ziegler called for nominations for Chair. Mr. Ray nominated Richard Oliver the current Vice-Chair. Dr. McClain moved to accept the motion, Susan Swanger seconded. Ms. Ziegler called for a vote. Vote was unanimous.

Ms. Ziegler called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Ray nominated Mike Goodson for Vice-Chair. Dr. Whitener moved to accept the motion, Dr. McClain seconded. Ms. Ziegler called for a vote. Vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Ray informed the Board that National Black Church week of Prayer to heal AIDS/HIV is this week and Asheville High and Middle Schools are holding prevention awareness with WNCCHS and “One Youth At A Time” this Sunday March 14th at Rock Hill Missionary Church on Caribou Rd. if anyone is interested in attending. If you are he can share more information just contact him.

The next meeting will be at 6:00 pm on April 8, 2010. The location to be announced via email notification.

Dr. Whitener motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Goodson.

Chair, Winnie Ziegler adjourned the meeting at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Gibbie Harris, Secretary

Adopted:

Winnie Ziegler, Chair